The Middlebury Campus

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Chairman of Library Committee presents progress report to SGA

Ben Brouwer

The proposed library will occupy the site of the old Science Center but will also require the removal of several trees and a few structures.

By Becky Ruby
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Board of Directors committed $40 million to the construction of a new library for the College.

The new proposal, however, is much more than just a building, Glen Andres, chairman of the Library Planning Committee, told the Student Government Association (SGA) in a meeting on Jan. 21.

The new building will be named the Library and Technology Center (LATC).

It will house not only existing library collections, but also Information Technology Services (ITS), Media Services, Instructional Technologies and a Writing Center. Andres also noted that the new library is being designed with the hopes that it will become a center of activity on campus.

The proposed new library building will be built on Storrs Avenue, where the old Science Center currently stands. This structure will be demolished, and the several houses along Storrs Avenue will be relocated.

Andres said the new building will be large horizontally rather than tall.

The idea is to create a building that would serve as an entrance to the campus, and not cut off the view from the town to Old Stone Row as the old Science Center currently does.

While noting that, "These designs are still evolving," Andres showed the SGA some of the plans for the new library.

The building itself is being designed to fit in with the architectural integrity of the campus as a whole.

Andres said that certain sections of the building will be sized proportionally to the other structures around it (such as Voter Hall and Munroe Hall), so that the large structure will appear congruent with current buildings.

In addition, the designers of the LATC took the hemisphere shape from the Warner Science building as an influence for the building's shape.

"We want to have a building that comes from this place and belongs to this place," said Andres. "At the same time, this is a forward-looking statement for the campus, and is new in a lot of ways."

One way the building is significantly different from many buildings on campus is the level of technology the plan calls for. All study carrels will have Internet connections, there will be several electronically enhanced group study rooms and the building will house four "smart classrooms," specially designed for computer and interactive media work.

In addition, Andres said that because ITS would be housed within the building, students could quickly get help with any technology problems they may have there.

Andres said other amenities in the tentative design for the LATC include a cyber café, a sizable hall and an impressive staircase structure at the entrance of the building, a web-broadcasting classroom, two major reading rooms, multiple small and large group study spaces and mezzanines of study carrels.

Work on the LATC building will begin in the spring of 2002, and is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2004.

As for its place on campus, Andres said that the new library will be easily incorporated into campus life. Chapel Walk – the sidewalk that leads from Mead Chapel down the hill past Old Chapel – will be extended to end at the front door of the new library building.

"It will be more accessible because a library has to be," said Andres. "The [entrance hall] will be a very energetic kind of place. The new building will be a place of activity because of all the different things stationed there."

Andres' presentation is one of many in recent weeks from Facilities Planning exhibiting the College's expansion plans.

The last presentation was held at Le Chateau, revealing plans for the expanded Atwater Commons. The plans show new residence halls and a full-service cafeteria. Plans to renovate Nelson Arena are also in the works for this summer. The improved structure would include a climbing wall.

Plans for the LATC are available at the Web page: www.middlebury.edu/~latc.

Puri to head Alumni and Parent Programs office

By Peter Simon
Staff Writer

Anya Puri '88 will be returning to Middlebury to work as the College's new director of Alumni and Parent Programs.

Puri graduated cum laude in May of 1988 with a degree in American Civilization.

After graduation, she worked in Battell as a residence hall advisor and later completed an internship in the Student Activities Office.

From 1989 to 1992, Puri worked as assistant director of admissions for the College. During her time in the Admissions Office, she was responsible for implementing a volunteer student admissions organization.

New Director of Alumni and Parent Programs Anya Puri.

She has also served as class agent, class secretary and social chair for her 10th reunion.

Puri left Middlebury in 1992 to work at the Lawrenceville School, a college preparatory school located in Lawrenceville, N.J., where she served in several different capacities.

While her main role at Lawrenceville was as a counselor at the school's college guidance office, Puri also taught a class titled "Diversity and the American Dream" from 1993 to 1997, and helped coach softball, field hockey and aerobics.

In addition to her work experience, Puri also brings to Middlebury impressive academic credentials, including a Master's degree in educational administration, planning and social policy from Harvard.

Islamic Society looks beyond Middlebury

By Tim McCahill
News Editor

After a fruitful meeting with the Dartmouth Muslim student organization Al-Nur two weeks ago, Middlebury's Islamic Society (IS) has decided to create a formalized network of Muslim student groups from Northern New England's colleges and universities.

The IS invited Al-Nur, along with members of the Muslim community in Burlington, to the annual Eid al Fitr dinner, a celebratory feast marking the end of the Muslim holy month Ramadan, held at McCullough on Jan. 19. The two groups discussed the problems they faced in increasing awareness of Islam on their respective campuses, and examined methods by which they might be able to work together to ameliorate some of the harder issues related to promoting understanding of their faith, its followers and its history.

Another important milestone for the group will come after February break. The IS, in concert with Middlebury Dining Services, has arranged to have Hallal meat featured in the Freeman cafeteria two days a week. The meat would be placed alongside other hot meals in the entrance to the cafeteria. To use a popular analogy, Hallal meat is to Muslims what kosher meat is to members of the Jewish faith.

According to tradition, Hallal meat comes from animals sacrificed by the name of God, or Allah. Hallal meat excludes pork

(see Islamic Society, page 4)

Nikki Holland

During a meeting of the Middlebury and Dartmouth Islamic organizations, conversations focused on establishing a network of Muslim students.

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COLLEGE shorts

By Devin Zatorski
News Editor

Double homicide of Dartmouth professors remains unresolved

Half and Susanne Zantop, a German émigré couple teaching at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., were found dead in their home on Saturday, Jan. 27. Kelly Ayott, chief of the homicide unit of the New Hampshire attorney general's office, declined to comment to *The New York Times* about the investigation, saying only that it was making progress with over 30 investigators working full time. Authorities told the *Times* that they advised Dartmouth that there was no specific reason to believe that students were in danger and that it did not need to increase security.

However, Dartmouth President James Wright said, "An event such as this shatters for many a sense of confidence, of optimism and of security." Dartmouth has taken several measures to increase security, including offering rides to students 24 hours a day instead of only at night and increasing the visibility of the security staff. Susanne, the chairwoman of the German department, and Half, an earth science professor, were both known for helping their colleagues and students and for always keeping the doors of their offices and home open to friends, students and acquaintances.

Boston University professors fume over office hour requirements

Boston University Provost Dennis Berkey proposed that faculty members be required to maintain office hours four times per week to ensure that professors do not ignore student needs once they have earned tenure. Professors allege that the proposal is yet another attempt of the administration to weaken the tenure system, the latest in a long history of faculty-administration clashes at the university. One professor claimed that he doesn't get "paid for hanging around" in the office, but rather for preparing lectures and publishing in scholarly journals.

Yale to boost T.A. stipends

In response to teaching assistants' efforts to unionize, Yale University announced it would increase stipends to Ph.D. students this month. The Graduate School Dean said the increase was motivated by Yale's desire to remain competitive among schools of similar caliber. Yet those who have advocated unionization take this as a signal that their efforts have not fallen on deaf ears. "All of what we are doing is working," said one graduate student who is also a spokesman for the Graduate Students and Employees Organization (GESO).

State budgets starve public colleges

The tight fiscal year anticipated by Louisiana, Mississippi and the Carolinas has public college administrators worried that their tax-supported funding will decrease drastically. The Mississippi State Board of Trustees for State Institutions of Higher Learning announced that hundreds of faculty and staff positions are on the "chopping block" as the state ponders declaring a full-fledged fiscal emergency. Mississippi's public institutions face cuts of 3 percent this year and 14 percent in 2002.

Department of Education report uncovers rise in campus drug and alcohol arrests

The Department of Education's first report on college crime shows that arrests for liquor and drugs continued to rise through 1999. Drug arrests at colleges across the country increased 6 percent, while drug arrests climbed 0.4 percent. In response to the report, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* studied colleges with the highest crime rates, finding that "Michigan State University had the highest number of liquor arrests and the University of California at Berkley topped the list for drug arrests."

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Conference spotlights digital society

By Devin Zatorski
News Editor

The Digital Bridges 2001 Conference, the second in a new annual gathering of the "movers and shakers of the Internet economy," started as the brainchild of veteran Economics Professor Michael Claudon and is fast becoming a fixture of Winter Term at Middlebury.

On Jan. 27 and 28, the conference convened in Bicentennial Hall in hopes of introducing real-world experiences into an academic setting, one facet of a college-wide initiative to develop what Claudon has dubbed a new "liberal arts paradigm for a digital society."

The conference was the centerpiece of Claudon's Winter Term course Digital Bridges 2001, and the product of 20 students' month-long preparation.

Students as principal stakeholders

On the first day of class this January, Claudon threw down the gauntlet: "You've got a conference to put together in three weeks," he told a wide-eyed classroom full of students, among them representatives of every class year.

"I'm not lecturing," he said, but "I will be a mentor and I will get you resources."

The reaction was one of "stunned silence," Claudon said.

Jason Ienner '01, who moderated a panel discussion on Napster and the P2P phenomenon, remembers the day well. "That's exactly what [Claudon] did," said Ienner of Claudon's frank introduction to their task.

And that's exactly what Claudon was trying to do. The 30-year faculty member said one of the hallmarks of the conference was that "students were the stakeholders in producing something that was totally new to them."

Over the course of the month, students planned seven panel discussions on issues ranging from Middlebury alumni who have started their own dot-coms to the spiraling popularity of Napster.

New kids in e-biz: alums.com

The inaugural panel of the conference, moderated by David Seeley '02 and comprised of three enterprising alumni who have taken the plunge and started their own dot-coms, spoke to how "the way we are packaging the liberal arts is really preparing our graduates for the new economy," noted Claudon.

> **Professor of Economics Michael Claudon said one of the hallmarks of the conference was that "students were stakeholders in producing something totally new to them."**

Ted Adler '99, president of the Burlington-based CollegeXtra.com and co-founder of middkid.com, was first to address a crowd of stalwarts who rose at 8:45 a.m. to attend the panel. The audience soon learned just how far Adler has come since his first entrepreneurial foray: a lemonade stand at age eight.

Well-known around Middlebury for his popular site middkid.com (15 percent of the student body checks it daily), Adler spoke of how he transformed this initial concept into a profitable business plan.

His company now creates similar "for students, by students" websites that include easy links to academic and athletic information, original-content features, dining hall menus, candid course evaluations, local restaurant guides and even the local weather forecast.

What started with Middkid.com has grown to include sites for Cornell University, Trinity College, the University of Vermont and others, each operated by a site manager who earns a commission based on the volume of local business advertisements.

"I closed a deal the day before my 24th birthday taking the concept on the road to the next level," said Adler, whose goal is to make his sites the "portal of choice at each school" and to maintain a "pure and clean niche market."

Graham Balch '97 has a quite a different vision: as founder and chief executive of ChangeAddress.com, he aims to introduce efficiency into the process of changing your address, catering to as many of the 44 million people who move each year as possible.

After a stint as a congressional intern and a corporate strategy consultant, Balch "did the hardest thing I have ever done" and started his dot-com company.

At present, his treasury holds a balance only sufficient to pay his staff for two more weeks, but his firm is on the verge of winning a $467,000 pilot contract with the United States Department of Defense, which could eventually lead to a $17 million deal that would allow all soldiers to use Balch's service.

"If you don't believe, no one else will," stressed Balch, who chose to focus more on the lessons and challenges of his experience rather than on the specifics of his business model.

Calling on his "ability to endure hardship" and his perseverant, character, he continues to forge partnerships with other businesses like moving.com to heighten the visibility of his company—a self-made marketing apparatus of sorts, he said.

With a final statement of encouragement to aspiring entrepreneurs, Balch concluded his talk, appropriately titled "Pushing the Envelope."

He said, "Entrepreneurship is in

(see Digital, page 5)

SGA Briefs

By Becky Ruby
Staff Writer

The Leadership Committee held its first of a series of dinners in the Chateau for the presidents and vice presidents of campus organizations. The first dinner was on the topic of collaboration between organizations on campus. Future dinners will be held in the spring, including one on Feb. 21.

Glen Andres, chairman of the Library Programming Committee, reported to the SGA on the progress of the new library. The library, to be built on Storrs Avenue where the Old Science Center currently stands, will hopefully be finished by summer 2004. To be renamed the Library and Technology Center (LATC), it will house not only the library collections, but also Information Technology Services (ITS), Media Services, Instructional Technology and a Writing Center. In addition, the tentative library designs include a cyber café, group viewing rooms, media labs, 375 study carols, two large reading rooms and four technology enhanced "smart" classrooms. Andres will be coming to Commons meetings in the next few weeks to solicit student input on the library plans. The floor plans and architecture of the library proposal can be viewed on the Web www.middlebury.edu/~latc.

Tom Reece '01.5 reported to the SGA on the final report findings of the February Self Study Committee. The committee sent out a survey to every mid-year graduate from the past five years, as well as interviewed admissions and budget staff to find out the costs and benefits of the program. The committee's findings included that 97 percent of mid-year graduates said they would choose to be a Feb if they had to do college all over again, and that Febs have a higher participation rate in leadership positions at Middlebury than do May graduates. The committee was formed because some Febs felt the program was under attack from the administration. The committee concluded that the Feb program is beneficial to the College because it brings more views and diverse people onto campus. The committee also reported that it feels the College does not do enough to promote the programs, which could be a "great benefit in the recruiting process," Reece said. The SGA voted to pass the report findings to the dean of Admissions, John Hanson, and to the secretary of the College, Eric Davis.

WRMC nominated for famed independent radio station award

Mike Hodson
Staff Writer

WRMC 91.1 FM, Middlebury College's radio station, was recently nominated for a PLUG Independent Music Award in the category "College/Non-Commercial Radio Station of the Year."

The PLUG Cartel, the group that gives the award, refers to "those music directors, disk jockeys and programmers, columnists, fanzines, publishers, filmmakers, artists and independent labels around the world who make important contributions to the independent music community in ways that give it a voice in the music world," according to the PLUG Independent Music Awards website.

The Cartel chooses and votes on candidates, but fans with Internet access can also vote for three people's choice awards.

The PLUG Independent Music Spirit Awards are held in Park City, Utah, concurrently with the Sundance Film Festival.

WRMC Rock Director Nate Hogan said the station was thrilled to be nominated.

"This shows that while we may not be accorded much respect within the college community, we are given huge respect in the subcommunity of independent radio," said Hogan. "We are one of the few college stations to get some labels' music, in part because we are held in such high regard."

Hogan felt that the station's upgrading to 29,000 watts played a part in the nomination, although station management is mystified as to who nominated WRMC or why.

Many of the other stations nominated transmit at higher wattages than WRMC, making WRMC's nomination even more special.

Twelve stations were nominated, with the winner being KCRW, "a huge non-commercial radio station in L.A.," according to Hogan.

Other non-commercial stations nominated were WBER, broadcasting out of Rochester, N.Y. and WFMU of East Orange, N.J. WRMC was one of nine college stations nominated, the others being Boston College's WZBC, Michigan's WCBN, Georgia State's WRAS, the University of Washington's KCMU, the University of Missouri – Kansas City's KCUR, the University of California – Irvine's KUCI, UC – Berkeley's KALX, and Loyola Marymount's KXLU.

Many of these stations transmit at higher wattages than WRMC, increasing their broadcast range beyond that of their college communities, making WRMC's nomination even more special.

For more information on the PLUG Independent Music Awards or a chance to vote next year for the People's PLUG Music Award or PLUG's Voice of the People Music Award, visit their website at www.plugawards.com.

Eric Skovsted
Brad Pryba '01 directs newscasting and hosts a talk radio show at WRMC.

Midd Briefs

By Devin Zatorski and Tim McCahill
News Editors

Hepburn residents voice concern over loss of lounges

A group of Hepburn Hall residents met with Residential Systems Coordinator Hikaru Kozuma, Assistant Provost Tim Spears and Brainerd Commons Dean Joianne Smith to voice their disapproval with the re-conversion of lounge space on the second and third floors of the dormitory into rooms for incoming February first-year students.

The two lounges, which had been designated as social spaces late last fall, were outfitted with new furniture and a television. According to an e-mail sent to Spears by Micheal Stahler '03.5, Hepburn representative for the Brainerd Commons Council, dorm residents had been using the newly equipped lounges "frequently for studying and socializing."

Shortly after the lounges were outfitted it was decided that the space would be re-converted into two two-person rooms.

Students attending the informal meeting said that they were disappointed at being so marginalized by College administrators, and voiced hope that some sort of resolution could be found by the Residential Systems Office.

Housing is short on campus, and with numbers of incoming February first-year students once again exceeding the College's projections, administrators are struggling to accommodate all complaints.

The conversion of social space to residential space has been frequent over the past six years, despite constantly being addressed by students and administrators alike. Spears and Kozuma urged concerned Hepburn residents to wait until an appropriate decision could be made.

New Community Relations Counselors named

Director of Health Education Yonna McShane announced the appointment of four new Community Relations Counselors who will serve as "contact people around harassment issues."

The counselors, part of a program that has been in place for a decade, represent a cross-section of the Middlebury community and are drawn from the ranks of the faculty, staff and student body.

The four new student members are Christopher Atwood '03, Brain Hamm '02, Yara Luna '03 and Kate Fitzpatrick '03.

Faculty Council discusses change in tenure review process

The College's Faculty Council is currently working on a proposal that would reduce the number of tenure reviews for faculty members from three to two.

According to Kevin Moss, co-chair of the Faculty Council and professor of Russian, currently faculty members awaiting tenure are reviewed in their second and fourth years before a final review in their seventh year when tenure is either granted or denied. The new proposal would review tenure candidates once in their third year and again in their seventh year for final approval or rejection.

Moss said the change in number of reviews was initially suggested in a recent external review of the College. Most other colleges review tenure candidates only once before the final review, so Middlebury is in the minority of schools with three total reviews, Moss added.

He also said that two reviews instead of three will take pressure off of faculty members since they won't have to be reviewed so often.

"We're in part becoming more like other places and it also will mean that [faculty] won't feel they're being reviewed all the time," Moss said.

The faculty has already engaged in preliminary discussion about the issue and the Council has been given "the go-ahead" to propose language, said Moss.

Moss said the council plans to present a proposal to the faculty at the February faculty meeting.

The different divisions of the faculty will meet throughout the month of February to discuss the proposed language. Moss said the council hopes to vote on the proposal at the March faculty meeting.

College awards Thomas Root Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching

Professor of Biology Thomas Root was named recipient of the 2001 Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching.

According to a press release issued by the Office of Public Affairs, the award "alternates between a faculty member in the mathematics department and computer science department and a faculty member of the four departments" in the natural sciences – namely, biology, chemistry, geology and physics.

Root joined the Middlebury faculty in 1979 as an assistant professor of biology.

From 1985 to 1990 Root served as both associate professor of biology and health professions adviser; he was named professor in 1990. Since then Root has received numerous grants, served on research organizations and was the director of the animal facility at the College.

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WORKSHOPS
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4:30, Gifford Lounge

Cover Letters & Resumes
Meet our CSO Counselors
5:00, CSO Library
Adirondack House

Career Conversation w/Alumnus
Dick Fuld, Wall Street Journal
3:30, Chateau Grand Salon

Fact: CSO has Drop-ins
(15 minute visits)
3:00 - 5:00, Tuesday - Friday, All day Mondays!

Hot Internships:
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Run for the Refuge Coord. - Researcher of Dams
For more information see www.experience.com

Good Reading:
Savvy Grads Go Global Without Leaving Home
www.CollegeJournal.com/n/SB979680684284298136-main.html

Website of the Week:
Trot around the globe - do an international internship!
http://international.monster.com/workabroad/articles/top10/

Islamic Society and contemporaries envision regional network

(continued from page 1)

or any kind of pork product; however, unlike in Judaism, the meat and dairy products can be mixed in the preparation of foods containing Hallal.

Until this Winter Term there had been no formal codification of supplying dining halls with Hallal meat, but according to Wasim Rahman '02, president of the Islamic Society, "The need for Hallal had been there for a long time."

Rahman estimated that there are approximately "seven to eight" observant Muslims who need the specially prepared meat, a number substantial enough to apply significant pressure on College administrators to accomodate the students.

In light of recent plans to expand IS contacts with New England colleges, Rahman said in an interview Monday evening that his organization represents a more "advanced stage" than Dartmouth's Al-Nur as it is more widely supported by the College in terms of financial assistance and its well established reputation as a student organization. The IS is also an older group, founded in 1983, whereas Dartmouth's was established in the 1990s.

While the discussions between Al-Nur and the Islamic Society were held in an informal setting, the talks proved both enlightening and beneficial for future cooperation according to members from the two organizations.

Besides talk of what kinds of problems both groups faced on their respective campuses, the discussion focused primarily on increasing contacts between the different Muslim student organizations across New England campuses. According to Rahman, Northern New England remains "the least developed in terms of activism and networking." This is largely due to the fact that Muslim populations in this part of the region are much smaller in relation to larger – and therefore more influential – Muslim communities in places like Boston, New York and Montreal.

The meeting with Dartmouth "is our move towards furthering Muslim student networking and unity in this region," Rahman wrote in an e-mail on Monday afternoon.

New England remains "the least developed in terms of activism and networking," according to Islamic Society president Wasim Rahman '02. This is largely due to the fact that Muslim populations in this part of the region are much smaller.

Since inviting Al-Nur to Middlebury two weeks ago, the IS has been busy contacting other Muslim student groups across colleges in Northern New England. These include, among others, organizations at the University of Vermont, Williams, Clemson and St. Michael's College.

The network: structure and substance

While no formal agreement has been made yet on the precise nature of the larger network envisioned by the IS and Al-Nur, Rahman said he hopes to base it loosely on the confederations or "councils" of Muslim student groups located in "active hotspots" like Boston and Albany, N.Y.

Most Muslim groups on college campuses across the country are part of a larger organization called the Muslim Students Association (MSA) National; this entity, based in the United States and Canada, is responsible for supporting campus life for Muslim college students.

This entails planning conferences on topics pertinent to students' faith, increasing awareness of Islam for non-Muslim students and creating task forces to push for the resolution of religious conflicts involving Muslims in places like Iraq, Israel and Kashmir.

Colleges with Muslim student groups that are part of the MSA are divided into zones according to their geographic locations; these zones are divided further into smaller regions.

The College's Islamic Society, therefore, belongs to the New England region of the MSA Eastern zone.

Muslim student organizations like the Islamic Society and Al-Nur are themselves referred to more generally as MSAs.

IS president Rahman was until recently the MSA representative for its Eastern zone, and in this capacity was responsible for coordinating events across the eastern seaboard. It wasn't until his meeting with members of Dartmouth's Al-Nur that Rahman realized more needed to be done for Muslim students attending colleges in rural New England.

"It's hard to access activism from the grassroots working with MSA National," Rahman mentioned in an interview Monday evening. "It's not pro-active. With a regional network we could feel free to contact each other for ideas and support, as well as advise each other."

It's hard to access activism from the grassroots working with the MSA National. With a regional network, we could feel free to contact each other for ideas and support, as well as to advise each other.

—Wasim Rahman '02

Rahman went on to say that increased exchanges between MSAs in Northern New England would be one approach to increase awareness of Muslim issues both in and outside the religious community. Rahman said he also hopes that larger conferences could be organized once the regional network becomes more established, as well as special events like an Islamic Awareness Week.

Yousuf Haque, president of Dartmouth's Al-Nur, expressed similar hopes. "We have common concerns and challenges, as well as similar numbers and comparable situations," Haque wrote in an e-mail Sunday.

"What does it mean to network with Middlebury? It means we have found a place where we can go to, and friends who can visit us. It means that there is a wider sense of community in each of our groups, and that we can benefit from one another's experiences and hope to tap into a common pool of resources."

While contacts with Dartmouth and other college Muslim groups across New England have just started to be made, no structure for the network envisioned by Rahman has been put in place as of yet.

Haque wrote that "more substantial networks [would be established] within the next few months" and an overarching organization for New England MSAs "is something we would all like very much."

Rahman mentioned that having a loose confederation of New England MSAs would be the best method of "combining efforts to increase awareness" while bringing greater structure to the regional grouping.

The next step, according to both Rahman and Dartmouth's Haque, will be a meeting between the IS, Al-Nur and other Muslim groups at Dartmouth on Feb. 17. Events planned for this meeting include a tour of the college with a dinner to follow.

A revitalized Islamic Society?

The success of the dinner meeting two weeks ago marks an optimistic turnaround for the IS. The group was plagued by a series of acts of vandalism last semester, including the November destruction of one its posters in the McCullough mail room.

Earlier last fall the group met with controversy after posters it put up highlighting the plight of Palestinians in the Israeli peace crisis were openly criticized by junior Katya Levitan.

The controversy sparked a debate over the freedom of campus religious groups as well as other issues regarding freedom of speech and the College's policy on posters.

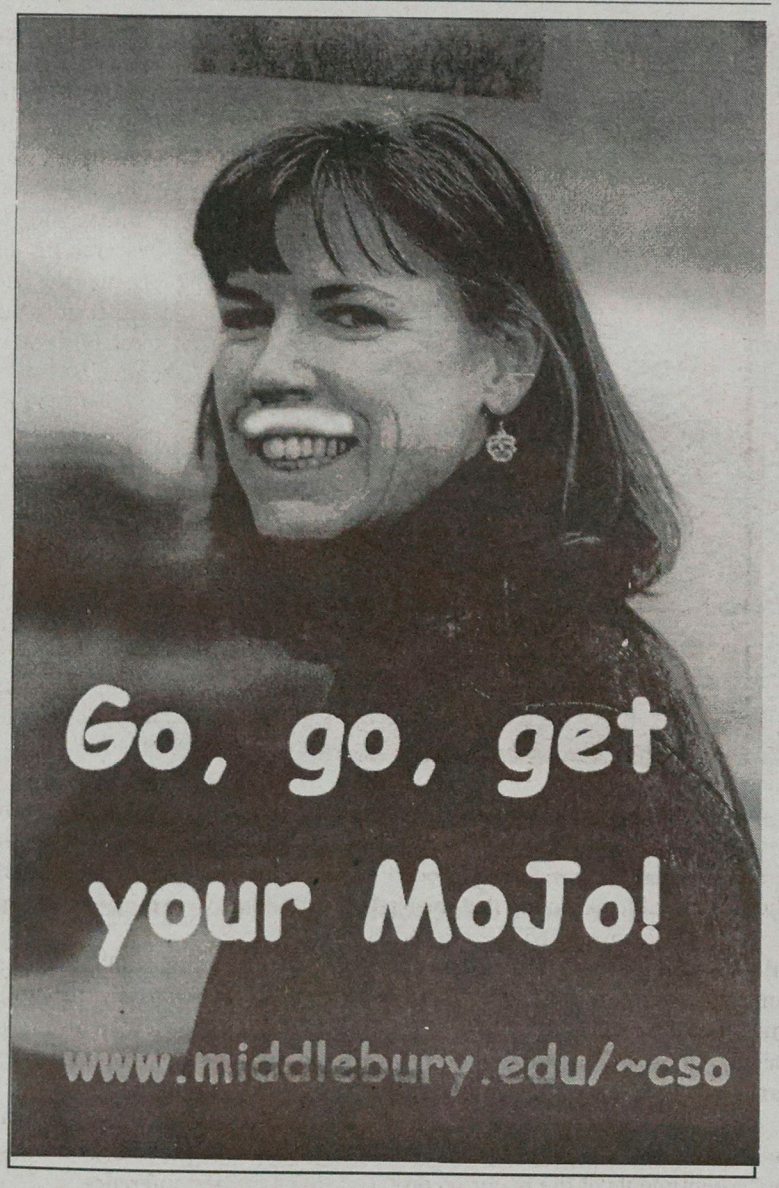
"What happened disturbed every single member of the Islamic Society," Rahman said. "[The events last semester] also made us a stronger and more cohesive group. We got past it and gelled together as a group."

The IS has also made other strides towards increasing its presence on campus.

During the holy month of Ramadan, a period in which observant Muslims are expected to fast from sunrise to sunset, the organization arranged to have meal credits transferred to cash credit at The Grille so that Muslim students could be accomodated for meals lost.

The IS also holds daily prayer services, a simple yet crucially important feature of members' faith.

While Rahman maintained that these events do not represent a "re-energizing" of the Islamic Society, there is little doubt that an increased presence on and off campus will do much to raise awareness of both the organization and, more broadly, Islam.



Ready...aim...fire!

Eric Skovsted

Looking with concentration towards his instructor, Chris Kautz '02 cradles a 22-caliber rifle at a firing range in Castleton. Students in the hunter education workshop learned the basics of firearms last Saturday.

Digital bridge forged by Middlebury students

(continued from page 2)

your blood...but it's a trial by fire."

Humberto Garcia-Sjogrim '96, founder and chief operating officer of giveashare.com, offered the third and final account of the dot-com world.

His company seeks to automate the manual process of giving stock to charity, which is a much more tax savvy way of donating, he said. His goal is to make his company the "Visa or Mastercard of stock giving."

Yet Garcia-Sjogrim is aware of the great risk involved in managing a dot-com startup: "Chances are one in six million that an idea for a high-tech business will eventually become a successful company that goes public."

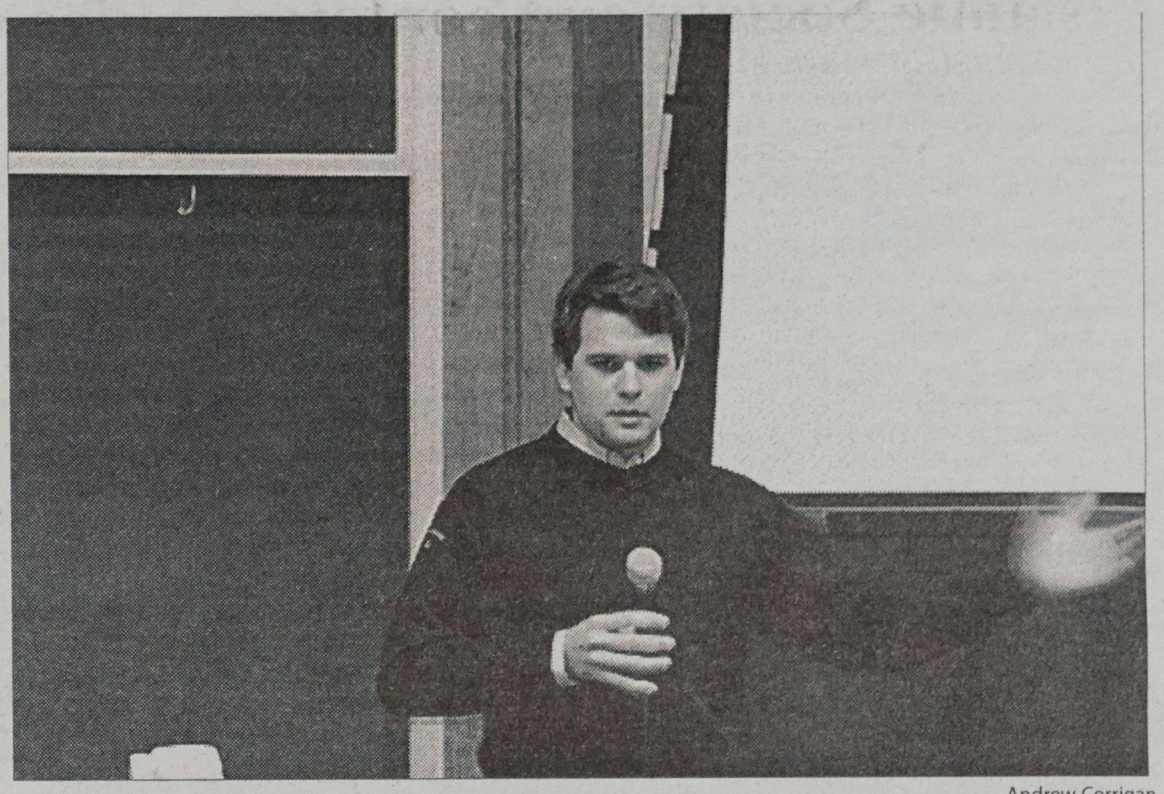
As the panelists' presentations gave way to questions from the audience, Middlebury College President John McCardell identified a recurrent theme in the discussion.

Each panelist had admitted that, when they started their businesses, they knew little about technology or their particular products.

"I'm not asking you to throw a bouquet to alma mater," said McCardell, but rather to reflect on how a liberal arts education has aided you in your journey.

Adler cited the importance of being able to find common ground with many different people, a skill he credits Middlebury for teaching him. Garcia-Sjogrim said his experience as president of the International Students Organization as pivotal to the development of his leadership skills.

Balch summarized, "I may have come to Middlebury because of the Environmental Studies major, but I left with the ability to think."



Andrew Corrigan

In the inaugural panel discussion of the Digital Bridges Conference, Humberto Garcia-Sjogrim '96 retraces his steps from Middlebury College to success in the the high-tech Internet economy.

Campus Security Log

The Department of Public Safety responded to the following incident reports.

01/17/01 Confiscated an illegal keg from Atwater.
01/18/01 Transported an intoxicated person from Davis to the Health Center.
01/18/01 Transported two intoxicated people from Pearsons to Porter ER.
01/18/01 Received a report of a stolen jacket from McCullough.
01/18/01 Received a report of a stolen backpack from the Field House.
01/19/01 Received a report of missing furniture from a first-floor classroom in Wright.
01/20/01 Responded to a report of an underage person drinking in Gifford.
01/20/01 Responded to a report of an underage person drinking in the Gifford Annex Lounge.
01/20/01 Responded to a report of suspicion of marijuana use.
01/21/01 Confiscated drug paraphernalia from a room in Battell.
01/21/01 Responded to a report of an underage person drinking at the Mill.
01/21/01 Transported an intoxicated person from Shannon Street to the Health Center.
01/21/01 Transported an intoxicated person from Allen to the Health Center.
01/21/01 Responded to a report of vandalism in Coffrin.
01/21/01 Responded to a report of suspicion of marijuana use.
01/23/01 Responded to an auto accident on Old Chapel Road.
01/25/01 Responded to a report of an unregistered party in Centeno.
01/25/01 Confiscated some illegal kegs from Palmer House.
01/25/01 Received a report of a stolen jacket and pair of jeans from the Field House.
01/25/01 Received a report of a stolen wallet from the Field House.
01/26/01 Received a report of a stolen backpack from the Field House.
01/27/01 Responded to a report of an illegal party in Battell.
01/27/01 Responded to a report of an illegal party in Battell.
01/27/01 Responded to a report of a person driving on the sidewalk by the New Dorms.
01/27/01 Received a report of a stolen jacket from The Grille.

If you have any information on the above incidents, please contact the Department of Public Safety at extensions 5911 or 5133.

Napster craze: effects on the music industry

services like Napster threaten the music industry.

"Music is the soundtrack to our lives," said Ienner, "and we have reached a cross-roads in its distribution."

Last December alone, he said, consumers bought 33 million blank CDs from Best Buy, a retailer with stores nationwide, so the implications for record companies are clear.

As consumers download free music, record labels scramble to recoup dwindling royalties, Ienner said.

Ienner, who aspires to work in the music industry, said that, in preparing for the panel discussion, he was working with purely theory-based information. Napster is popular and its based on piracy, he said, but other than that "we did not have much to go with."

Nonetheless, Ienner knew he could do much to dispel popular myth that Napster means the end of record labels and retail sales.

John Whitehead of the Anti-Piracy Council of the Recording Industry Association of America, shed light on the evolution of Internet music.

"A few years ago, Internet music meant a few clips with no variety of artists," he said, until the summer of 1999 when MP3 sharing services like Napster began the "massive distribution of unlicensed audio files."

Since then, Whitehead's organization has initiated legislation against Napster, winning a preliminary injunction against Napster from District Court of Northern California.

But currently the Ninth Circuit court has stayed the injunction, and Whitehead is awaiting their final decision.

"What we're seeing now is the tip of the iceberg in terms of online music distribution," said Whitehead, who foresees a gradual movement towards a legitimate music distribution model.

Clay Shirky, a partner for technology and product strategy at the Accelerator Group, likens the Napster craze to "massive civil disobedience," drawing a comparison with the 55 mile-an-hour speed limits and the prohibition movement.

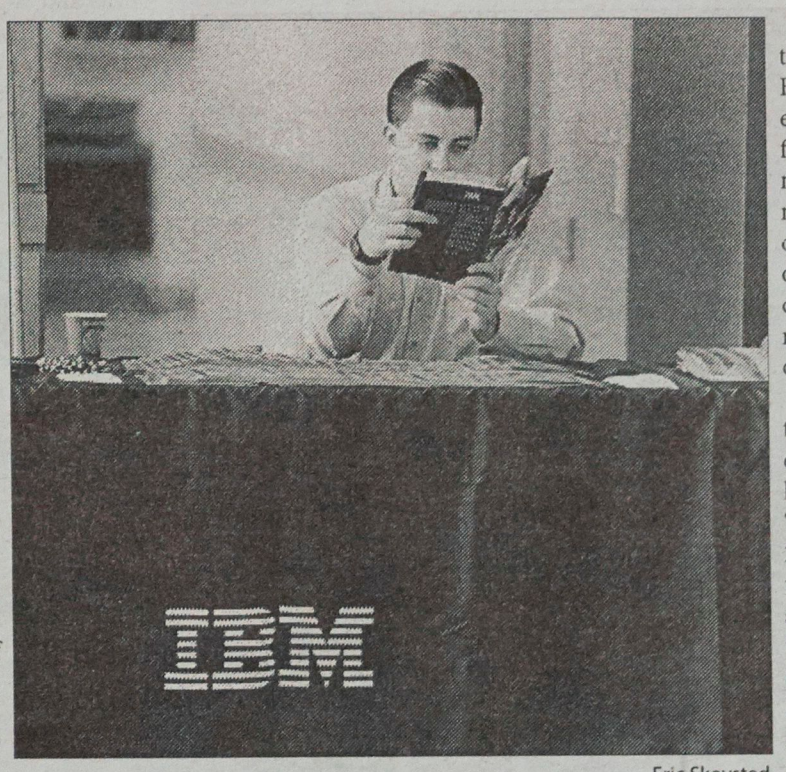
"The driving force of democracy is complacency," Shirky contended. The difference between 55 miles-per-hour and 70 is the difference between most people being willing to break the law and most people being willing to obey it, he said, predicting that the Napster controversy will be quelled by finding acceptable compromise between the current piracy and buying retail CDs.

Mark Ghuneim, senior vice president for online and emerging technologies at the Columbia Records Group, represented the sentiments of the major record labels, citing the "imbedded relationship with the artists" that his company strives to achieve.

Jason Fiber, vice president for digital strategies for checkout.com, a music retailer, anticipates that online music and retail sales of CDs will balance, creating a coexistent market.

He also characterized Napster as the "metaphor for taking joints, shoving them in a cigarette box, putting them behind the counter and selling them despite the fact that its against the law."

Claudon views the conference as a platform to build and maintain community, with the overarching goal of making new connections.



Eric Skovsted

IBM Representative Kris Decker '00 and other recruiters from Internet companies filled Bicentennial Hall Friday for the Digital Bridges career fair.

The conference, in sum

Claudon views the Digital Bridges Conference as a "platform to build and maintain community, with the overarching goal of making new connections and reestablishing old ones."

Even though this year's conference came on the heels of the "bloodbath of 2000," which saw the disappearance or absorption of 65 percent of the dot-coms, it was "every bit as stunning a conference as last year's, which came at a time when economic conditions were much more favorable.

Claudon urges all who missed the conference to visit www.digitalmidd.org to view archived video recordings of each panel discussion.

With better publicity next year, he said he hopes to draw more students to the conference.

Fifield explores his brother's past

An exceptional journey from Cambodia to Middlebury

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

All too often, the town of Middlebury seems like a homogeneous environment. The recently published account of Middlebury native Adam Fifield's experiences with his adopted Cambodian brother, Soeuth Saut, is a testament to his family's desire to embrace diversity and to help those in need.

In his book, "A Blessing Over Ashes: The Remarkable Odyssey of My Unlikely Brother," Adam weaves the story of Soeuth's early life in Khmer Rouge labor camps with his transition to an Americanized lifestyle and how the Fifields were impacted by their Cambodian son.

Soeuth's walls slowly came down, especially after he began fishing with Adam and David. Instead of using fishing poles, Soeuth got in the river and caught the fish with his bare hands, amazing his brothers with his agility and quickness.

William and Jean Fifield moved to Middlebury in 1979 with their sons, Adam and David. William, a family practitioner, and Jean, a retired speech pathologist, always welcomed visitors into their home. Foreign exchange students, a Fresh Air child, touring musicians and the occasional runaway all found comfort in the Fifield's home.

The Fifields were involved with the immigration of Cambodian refugees fleeing the war-torn country in the early 1980s, as their church and others in the area came together to sponsor several families. Soeuth originally lived with another family that had worked very hard to adopt him, but he did not take to their strict rules.

Soeuth's Cambodian friends convinced him to run away from his first family, telling him they were not treating him like an adult. His foster family, aware of the Fifield's passion for taking in students, contacted them and asked if they would like to take in Soeuth.

Soeuth's arrival at the Fifield home

Soeuth was under the care of the Spectrum Youth and Family Services, hired by the state of Vermont to arrange foster care for the Cambodian refugees. "They checked us out thoroughly," said William. "It was interesting going through the dynamics of deciding if we wanted to adopt Soeuth, but I must say it is the best thing our family ever did. After we saw the picture of Soeuth in the labor camp, holding his identification number in front of him, we knew we had to take him in."

Soeuth arrived at the Fifield's home a few days before Christmas in 1983. "We didn't know what to think about Soeuth when he arrived," said Adam, on a phone interview from Brooklyn, N.Y.

"He was withdrawn and mysterious and with my active imagination, I saw him as a strange and exotic figure and thought a lot about what his life in Cambodia was like."

For months, Soeuth hardly communicated with the Fifields. Adam remembers that Soeuth spent most of his time alone in his room, only coming down for meals. Even that was troublesome, as Soeuth wanted to eat rice at every meal, and also have hot meals three times a day.

"Even though he had been in Middlebury for over a year before he came to our home, the transition was much harder for him than it was for us," Jean said. "We spent a lot of time with his social worker, Bob Silverstein, learning how to make him comfortable."

Courtesy of the Fifield Family

Above, Soeuth Saut as a child in a Khmer Rouge child-labor camp. This photograph played a pivotal role in the Fifield's choice to adopt Soeuth.

The Fifields admit that they had no idea of the scope of Soeuth's childhood until Adam's book was written. Soeuth frequently thought he saw the ghosts of his family, which he believed had died in Cambodia. He was only six when his father sent him to a child labor camp. "Bob convinced us to build Soeuth a shrine to comfort him," said William. "We bought incense and a little Buddha for him to pray to when he got scared."

The bond of brotherhood forms

Adam and David never had any problems with Soeuth, but Adam admits feelings of jealousy when Soeuth arrived, panicked that his role as the oldest might be lessened. More than that, Adam was curious to find out about Soeuth's life in Cambodia. "He had this look in his eyes. They were very wise and still. It was like a man staring out of a child's eyes," he said.

Soeuth's walls slowly came down, especially after he began fishing with Adam and David. Instead of using fishing poles, Soeuth got in the river and caught the fish with his hands, amazing his brothers with his agility and quickness. "It was then that the bond of brotherhood emerged," Adam said.

"Soeuth picked up things so quickly," William said. "After two downhill ski lessons he looked like a pro. He excelled in volleyball, soccer and especially Tae Kwan Do." All three boys took Tae Kwan Do

(see Soeuth's, page 8)

STATE
shorts

By Adam Waite
Staff Writer

Ben & Jerry's co-founder hospitalized

On Jan. 19, Ben Cohen, co-founder of Ben & Jerry's, underwent heart bypass surgery at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington. *The Rutland Herald* reported on Jan. 25 that he was in good condition. Company spokesman Duane Peterson told *The Herald* that Cohen did not have a heart attack or "any kind of an emergency." The surgery was performed after tests revealed that Cohen had coronary heart disease that necessitated the procedure. Cohen used his situation to lobby for better medical care for all, commenting that, "I'm really lucky to be getting all this great medical care." He added that, "A lot of people in this, the world's richest country, would be up a creek without a paddle because they don't have health insurance. I'm more convinced than ever that's got to change so every American gets the health care they need." Cohen left the hospital later last week. His surgery comes after an active year for Ben & Jerry's, one in which the company was acquired by the conglomerate Unilever. Cohen reportedly received about $39 million for his share of the company, but feared that Ben & Jerry's would "become just another brand like any other, soulless, heartless, spiritless brand out there."

Abortion pill makes its way to Vermont

RU-486 recently arrived in Vermont clinics, according to Rebecca Brookes, vice president for communications at Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. Also known as mifepristone, RU-486 is used to perform medical abortions in which a miscarriage is chemically induced. The treatment entails three visits over a two-week period, followed by a miscarriage. Mary Hahn Beerworth, executive director of Vermont Right to Life, while regretting the arrival of the pill, acknowledged to *The Burlington Free Press* that her organization focuses on passing a state bill requiring parental notification for abortions received by minors. Brookes and Beerworth are both interested in the action that President Bush will take regarding abortions. This comes days after a Bush staff member said that some important abortion policies would be reviewed by the administration. In 1998, 1,870 abortions were performed in Vermont; 1,517 were performed in clinics, 342 in doctors' offices, and 11 in hospitals. Brookes told *The Free Press*, "We plan to continue to expand it to other sites." Some doctors will not provide the pill due to safety or moral concerns, or because of a lack of equipment or distaste for political controversy.

Local students earn UVM scholarships

The University of Vermont (UVM) is awarding full tuition to the top-ranked student in every school in the state, reported *The Burlington Free Press* on Jan. 20. The program is part of President Judith Ramaley's plan to enhance UVM's academic reputation. Each scholarship is worth over $33,000. UVM's tuition for in-state students was $7,692 in 1999, the highest in the nation among public universities. There are currently 29 valedictorians in UVM's undergraduate program. Forty percent of the UVM's students are from Vermont. UVM spokesman Will Mikell said that some of the selected students have agreed to attend UVM. For others, the offer is not enough to change their minds. Brian Wannop, of Woodstock High School, was admitted to Harvard and did not apply to UVM. He said, "I love Vermont, but I want to go somewhere else to get a feel for another part of the country." IsaBeall Quella, of Gailer School in Shelburne, is still undecided. She said, "I wasn't planning on staying in Vermont. I want to check out the urban scene. But it's awfully tempting: free tuition."

Native dance

Eva Moller

Dancing to the rhythms of Native American Music, *a Middlebury student and Native American dancer prance across the McCullough stage.*

Local politics comes alive in Kunin's Winter Term experience

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

As far as Winter Term classes go, most are geared toward providing Middlebury College students with interesting courses not offered during the rest of the academic year. Bicentennial Scholar in Residence Madeleine Kunin, also a former governor of Vermont, teaches such a course State and Local Government in Vermont.

Students divide their time between discussions on campus and at the capitol in Montpelier, where they sit in on legislative sessions, hear guest speakers and learn the ins and outs of Vermont politics.

From their questions and comments I think they [the students] are enjoying the course. It gives them an opportunity to think about politics and how they can participate in the system.
–Madeleine Kunin, bicentennial scholar in residence

Kunin's philosophy for the course

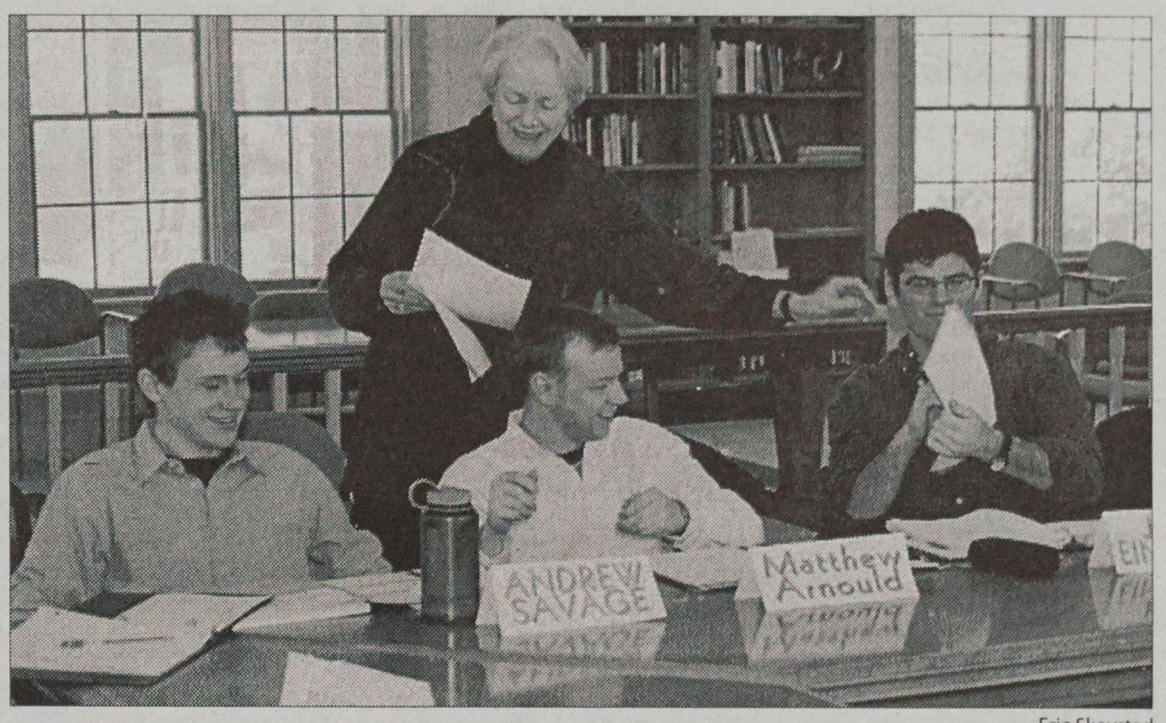
"The point of this course is to give a hands-on experience of how state and local government works," said Kunin. "We have a living lab in Montpelier for politics. Vermont is a special place in that you can get up close in government because there are no formalities to keep you away from the center of it all."

Last Winter Term, Kunin taught a course on women's autobiographies but wanted to share her political experience with students. She designed the course in the spirit of Winter Term and believes it is ideal due to the time spent off campus. "It would be difficult for this course to be offered during the regular term with the hour-and-half trip to Montpelier," Kunin said.

The guest speakers and legislators who allowed students to shadow them for a day have been a positive addition to the course, Kunin asserted. "I know most of them through my own political journey in Vermont," she added.

Kunin feels the lecturers and legislators added to the learning experience. "There were all terrific and very cooperative," she said. "They like to work with students because they see them as future leaders."

The students focused on the recent civil union law as a case study to see how the system of government in Vermont works. This should be of interest to all students, said Kunin, because it is now a national issue that Vermont initiated.



Eric Skovsted
Madeleine Kunin jokes with students as she passes back a major paper during her Winter Term class in Geonomics.

The experience in Montpelier

One day in Montpelier was spent learning about the civil union issue, with attorney Susan Murray, who argued the case before the Vermont Supreme Court. Two of the plaintiffs in the case, Stan Baker and Peter Harrigan, then told their side of the case.

"I wanted the students to see how this issue became a law in Vermont," said Kunin. "It is important to see how to take a new concept, especially one not adopted in any other state or federal arena, and turn it into legislation."

Tom Little, the chair of the committee that wrote the civil union law, spoke to the students, allowing them to see the dynamics that went into its drafting.

On Jan. 18, the students witnessed Republican Representative Nancy Sheltra sponsor a resolution to be sent to the U.S. Senate, urging the confirmation of former Missouri Senator John Ashcroft as attorney general. "There was quite a discussion over Ashcroft, especially if he would be of interest to Vermonters," said Kunin. "The resolution was defeated, and it was interesting for the students to see the deliberations."

Kunin is "very impressed" with the student's level of scholarship. "They are enthusiastic, ask good questions and are sharp," she said. "From their questions and comments I think they are enjoying the course. It gives them an opportunity to think about politics and how they can participate in the system."

She feels that there is heightened skepticism and cynicism regarding politics, and the only hope for a strong democracy in the future is that "this generation of young people must be willing to be engaged in participation." She is confident that "in this microcosim of Vermont, you can achieve change enough to the time to keep you optimistic."

Kunin's political background

For Kunin, it is interesting to go to Montpelier, because that is where her political roots are. She believes the growth of the women's movement, as well as the struggle to preserve Vermont's environment propelled her into politics.

Born in Switzerland, Kunin arrived in the United States in 1940. She came to Vermont in 1958 as a reporter with *The Burlington Free Press*. In 1972, she ran for the Vermont House of Representatives representing Burlington and won her first election.

Midway through her third term in the House, Kunin decided to run for lieutenant governor. Four years at this level pushed her to run for governor in 1982. Her defeat by incumbent Richard Snelling did not dissuade her from running in 1984, when she won the seat, serving for three terms. In her six years, Kunin's achievements included furthering reforms in education, environment and children's services.

Before coming to Montpelier, the class discussed competition in government, but we saw that much can be accomplished. This has given me faith in politics and a better understanding of how local politics works.
—Sarah Day '01

In 1994, Kunin was appointed deputy U.S. secretary of education and was instrumental in enacting President Clinton's education reform program. She became U.S. ambassador to Switzerland in 1996, facilitating the return of Swiss bank account funds to Holocaust survivors in the United States.

Students express enthusiasm

Kunin's credentials impressed her students. Katie Johnston '02 was interested in the class because she knew about Kunin's history in Vermont politics. "I was also very interested in finding out about how politics works on a state and local level, and wanted to get an idea about how laws were made," said Johnston.

Sarah Day, '01 found the approach to the course appealing. "I was intrigued by the experiential part and wanted to witness what took place in the state house," said Day. "I had also heard that Madeleine Kunin was an excellent professor."

What both students noticed was the respect that Kunin still garnered in Montpelier. "She is a very clear leader," said Day. People were always stopping her in the halls and thanking her for what she had done in Vermont."

Day felt the day spent shadowing a legislator was worthwhile. She shadowed Nancy Chard, D-Windsor, the chair of the Health and Welfare Committee. Day found Chard's discussion of compliance testing with merchants to combat the sale of alcohol to minors especially interesting.

Chard has been with the legislature for many years and gave Day insight on the process. "She reflected on the freshman legislators and the constant transition in each session," said Day.

Johnston shadowed Francis Brooks D-Montpelier, the only African-American in the House. "When the legislature was debating the Ashcroft confirmation, he stood up and gave a speech opposing Ashcroft's confirmation," said Johnston. "He has been on the Appropriations Committee [which approves the budget] for many years and has been in the legislature for 20 years."

The experience gave Day and Johnston a heightened appreciation for Vermont lawmakers. "It has been great to see that government works," said Day. "Before coming to Montpelier, the class discussed competition in government, but we saw that much can be accomplished. This has given me faith in politics and a better understanding of how local politics works."

Johnston concurred, pointing to the fact that Vermont has a citizen's legislature, where the legislators only meet for six months out of the year, as a reason why many were so open. "They were all so approachable and happy to talk to us during their breaks and at lunch about political issues," she said.

She was impressed that many legislators sent surveys to their constituents asking how they should vote and were very active in local activities. "It is refreshing to see that they represent their constituents and it is nice to see that there are pure forms of democracy practiced in Vermont," she concluded.

Civil unions, abortion focus of legislative debate

By Adam White
Staff Writer

In the past weeks, the Vermont State Legislature has been dealing with issues related to civil unions, abortion and Act 250.

On Jan. 18, Rep. Nancy Sheltra, R-Derby, introduced a bill that would repeal the civil unions law. The bill states, "A civil union or reciprocal beneficiaries relationship established pursuant to the act shall be void." According to *The Rutland Herald*, the House Judiciary Committee will review the bill, as well as six or seven other bills that would change the civil unions law.

Judiciary Committee Chairwoman Peg Flory, R-Pittsford, is introducing a bill that would extend the protections offered under the civil unions law to other couples, including relatives.

However, Chief Assistant Attorney General William Griffin believes that such a broadening of the law would not be consistent with the decision in Baker v. State of Vermont. Griffin said, "I think the bottom line is the easier case to defend is if you created a third system for this group you describe."

Earlier in the week, Beth Robinson, one of the lawyers in Baker, was quoted in *The Herald* as stating, "We don't seek from this body any bill this session. Vermont has been through a lot. I think we're all ready to heal."

She made her statement in response to the urgings of Rep. Duncan Kilmartin, R-Newport to extend full marriage rights to same-sex couples.

David Stertzbach, the pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church in Williston, delivered petitions to House Speaker Walter Freed's office Jan. 22, "telling him to get with the program," referring to the anti-civil unions movement. Stertzbach operates a political action committee called "The Vt. Defense of Marriage PAC." He mailed 30,000 letters throughout the state, aided by "the Public Advocate of the U.S," a conservative direct-mail organization based in Virginia.

He said that he believes that what he calls the "radical homosexual lobby" is seeking to jail religious figures who call homosexuality a sin; revoke the licenses of businesses that do not "service the homosexual marriage industry"; and force churches and day cares to hire homosexuals "even if they have AIDS."

His letter also criticizes Republicans who do not support repeal of the civil unions law. Stertzbach feels that Republicans are obligated to support a repeal of the law based on the support of anti-civil union voters for Republicans in the November election.

On Jan. 19, the House approved by an 85-51 vote a measure celebrating the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. Meanwhile, Sheltra plans to sponsor a bill requiring parental notification of abortions for minors. She said, "A lot of parents are concerned that their power is being usurped. I think parents want to have knowledge of any medical procedure being performed [on their children]."

Leslie Black, Vermont chairwoman of the National Abortion Rights Action League, said that the proposal "means that many of them could be seriously injured and some could die all in order to avoid telling their parents."

Soeuth's early life brings reflection

(continued from page 6)

Do." All three boys took Tae Kwan Do lessons, and it became a way for Soeuth to combat the teasing that he attracted in school. Once his skills became known, he rarely encountered any harassment.

In 1984, Soeuth entered sixth grade at the age of 15, after nine years without any formal education. He learned to read, but as William stated, few of the Cambodian children became fluent. His talent in math, however, was remarkable. Soeuth tutored Adam, in algebra, another bond shared between them.

Adam and Soeuth move in different directions

Jean and William noted that Adam always had a flair for writing. He began by writing "Choose Your Own Adventure" books and moved on to being the editor of *The Tiger's Print* at Middlebury Union High School (MUHS).

"I was a real straight-arrow in high school," Adam admitted. His activism gained him a reputation, as he took it upon himself to ban smoking at MUHS. "Many of Soeuth's friends became my adversaries since they were smokers, but he never confronted me and congratulated me when I succeeded."

As editor of *The Tiger's Print*, Adam tried to "shake things up" by discussing racism and hate crimes. He founded a civil rights group to promote the issue at MUHS. He attributes the liberal atmosphere in the community to his success

After Soeuth graduated, he and Adam went in separate directions. Soeuth had been enrolled in the Hannaford Career Center at MUHS, a regional vocational program. "He loved working with his hands to fix things," said William. After graduating, Soeuth worked at local car garages before becoming a certified mechanic with Ryder Trucks in Burlington.

"Soeuth has done very well," said William. "He is married and lives a successful life." As a supervisor in a factory in Malden, Mass., Soeuth has "a responsible job and works hard to support his family."

William maintained that Adam and David learned much from Soeuth's work ethic. "He studied constantly to improve his English," said Jean. "As a speech pathologist, it was hard for me to see him struggle, but his diligence paid off."

Adam attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, majoring in political science and theater. He participated in the newspaper and eventually branched out to work on the local Lewiston paper as well.

Adam's flair for writing flourishes

"In terms of my transition to being a writer, I always wanted to be either a writer, a political activist or a politician," said Adam. "While working with my high school's paper, I realized that I liked influencing public opinion. Later on, I realized that writing was the best way to do that."

After graduating from Bates in 1994, Adam took a job as a reporter in the San Juan Islands off the coast of Washington. He was one of two reporters for the local paper, but found it confining due to the limited scope and lack of controversy; political figures were protected from press coverage.

In the fall of 1995, Adam began an internship with Wayne Barret at *The Village Voice* in New York City. After the internship, he became a full-time reporter. During his stay at *The Voice*, he began writing a piece about Soeuth, but due to a change in editors it never ran. At this time, he had applied to Columbia Journalism School.

The book becomes a reality

Adam entered Columbia Journalism School but it was a brief stay. "One of my professors was Sam Freedman, a former writer for *The New York Times*," Adam said. "I gave him my article on Soeuth as a sample, and he told me it had potential as a book. Sam advised me to drop out, found me an agent and got me a book deal in April 1997."

In writing his book, Adam reconnected with Soeuth. They had seen each other on the holidays, but lived different lives. Adam's awareness of Soeuth's childhood grew throughout the years.

One important aspect of this occurred when Adam returned to Cambodia with Soeuth in 1997. Fifield describes this vividly in his book, showing Soeuth come to terms with his birth family.

"Soeuth would say things here and there about life in Cambodia and I read books about life under the Khmer Rouge, but stuff came out in our discussions that I could have never imagined," he said. "I must have spent over 1,000 hours talking to him about his early life."

Courtesy of the Fifield Family

Soeuth Saut (middle) sits outside of the Fifield family's farm house in Middlebury with his adopted mother Jean and his brother Adam.

A Blessing Over Ashes was listed on *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*'s Best Books of the Year list. "That was surprising, because there are so many books printed each year," Adam said. "For me, this is a book about brotherhood, which can be a very elusive bond. It is also about the journey to adulthood for Soeuth and myself."

The Fifield's legacy of helping others continues

The Fifield's took in Bosnian Amila Ibricevic '01 in 1993, continuing their legacy of caring for others. Her sister, Aida, was attending Middlebury College at the time and met the Fifields at a party for Bosnian refugees hosted by Soeuth's first family. Aida wanted to find a family to take her sister, who was unable to attend high school because Sarajevo was under siege. Ibricevic was unavailable for comment as she is away for Winter Term.

"Having Soeuth and Amila has given us an appreciation of living in this country," said William. "Soeuth went through more trauma in his first 15 years than we will go though in a lifetime."

"Their experiences of living in war-torn places give us a perspective of how easy our lives are," Jean said. "We didn't have any idea what we were getting into when we took in Soeuth, but we took a chance and felt secure about our decision."

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Accenture was formerly known as Andersen Consulting

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Author Robert Cohen's way with words opens critics' eyes

By Claire Bourne
Features Editor

Have you ever experienced one sleepless night after another, tossing and turning and trying desperately to drift into slumber? What if there existed a remedy—a miracle drug that not only guaranteed satisfying sleep, but also thrilling dreams and a sense of refreshment and reinvigoration in the morning? Would you take it?

This is the question Robert Cohen, assistant professor of English at Middlebury, explores in his latest novel, "Inspired Sleep." Released this month to an encouraging review in the Jan. 12 issue of *The New York Times*, Cohen's story focuses on 39-year-old Bonnie Saks, a divorced mother of two who is now pregnant by a man she loathes. Struggling to pay her bills, Bonnie earns a meager salary at a lesser-known Boston college teaching literature courses to "culture-deprived" students, while simultaneously attempting to complete her dissertation on Thoreau.

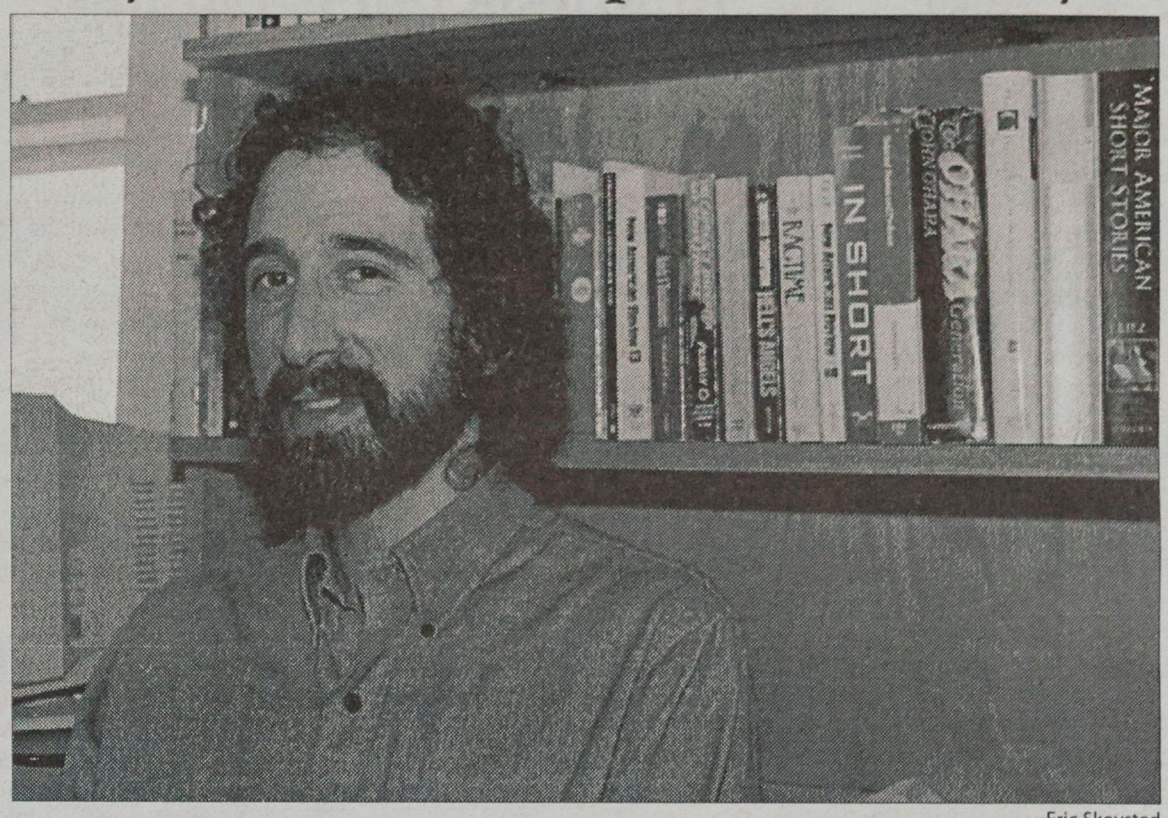
Bonnie's problem? She can't sleep. "I wonder whether anyone has done insomnia so well since Gilbert and Sullivan's 'When You're Lying Awake With a Dismal Headache,'" wrote Richard Eder of *The New York Times*.

In an age when medication exists for any and every ailment—mental or physical—it is no surprise that Bonnie turns to Professor Howard Heflin's "super mood pill" in hopes of curing her insomnia. It works – for a while. But all good things must come to an end, and it is through these ruins of Bonnie's life, not to mention the underhanded way in which Heflin obtains government approval for his drugs, that Cohen reveals a "satiric attack on the ethics of the drug industry," Eder commented.

> **I don't dismiss plot, but it's not my primary interest. I think fundamentally a book is made out of words, so the words have to do something on the page. Characters don't exist, so they only matter if words bring them to life.**
>
> **—Robert Cohen, assistant professor of English**

A few years ago, Cohen wrote a short story that was destined to become chapter one of "Inspired Sleep." "I liked dealing with the protagonist [Bonnie], and I wanted to spend more time with her," he explained. The concept for this novel was born when Cohen fused his original character with the fact that "almost everyone I knew on the planet was on one or another antidepressant drug."

How does Cohen mold these characters? "Intuitively," he responded. "I begin with a vague thematic sense of what's wrong with them. I'm interested in putting them in situations that put pressure on their problems. It's a slow way of writing because I literally don't know what the story is until the end of the first draft."



Eric Skovsted
Robert Cohen's latest book, "Inspired Sleep," released this month to inspiring reviews in The New York Times.

Real life plays a minor role in Cohen's character sketches. For instance, he applied several "juicy little details that came from one or another friend" to personages in the novel. He also incorporated "something I do with my kid to make him go to sleep" to add a personal touch.

After creating credible characters, Cohen looks next to the story line. "Plot is an important element because I'm not particularly good at it. I don't really think that way," he admitted. "I don't dismiss plot, but it's not my primary interest." It is simply a device "just to keep people awake—a vehicle to get where I'm going." Central to Cohen's work, however, is language. "I think fundamentally a book is made out of words, so the words have to do something on the page; otherwise nothing else matters," he explained. "Characters don't exist, so they only matter if words bring them to life."

Inherent to the writing process is the task of revising. Cohen knows this well. "You have to make self-doubt your friend," he said. "If you can't handle self-doubt, you're going to be defeated by it." He tackled draft after draft of manuscript revisions – five in total, not to mention rewriting a page here and a page there. In fact, the author maintained that he spent more time revising than actually penning the first draft "by a lot."

In the end, it took Cohen three years to perfect Bonnie's story. "Writing a book takes a really long time," he explained, emphasizing the amount of concentration needed to complete this sort of project. "Plus, you feel like you're missing it nine-tenths of the time."

As for publishing the book, aspiring writers "should know as little as possible about the publication process because it will discourage them," Cohen asserted. He left it at that.

Cohen is aware of his weaknesses and his strengths. Eder's only qualms with this book were the plot's "noticeable fictional bumps." The author's attention to language paid off, as Eder proclaimed the work a "talented novel," "incitingly well written" and referred to Cohen as an "acute and fresh-voiced novel-

(see Cohen, page 11)

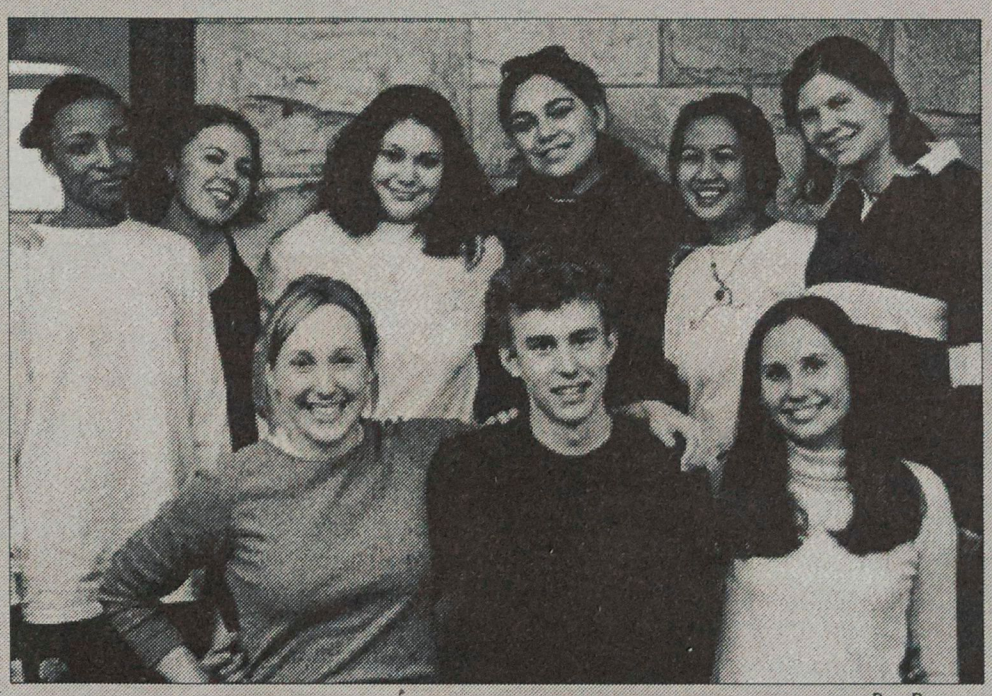
From dusk 'til dawn: a dance-a-thon diary

By Kristine Palmero
Staff Writer

"In about three to four years when this dance-a-thon is the biggest fundraising event on campus," said Lindsay Gardner '03, "we can say that we were the first ones to dance 'til sunrise."

From 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. on Jan. 26-27, during Middlebury's first dance-a-thon, 10 students raised more than 800 dollars in pledges to help Addison County's fuel assistance program.

The town of Middlebury was the greatest supporter, with gift certificates from Fire & Ice, Ben & Jerry's, Rosie's, Woody's, Noonies and Dada, an airline ticket to anywhere in the continental United States from Accent Travels and a pair of silver earrings from Middlebury Jewelry and Design.



Ben Brouwer
The participants in the first annual MCAB Charity Dance-a-Thon muster smiles last Sunday.

9:15 p.m. McCullough. Mandatory pre-dance meeting. Rhonda Moore '01, Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) social chair and event organizer, gives us our tee-shirts and we pick a neon number, to pin to our backs. Moore reads the rules: at least two-thirds of the team must be dancing, no leaning against furniture or the stage, 15-minute stretching breaks every couple of hours. I imagine a 10-hour night straight out of American Bandstand. MCAB, which had originally brainstormed the dance-a-thon idea during a fall orientation meeting looked to different colleges' dancing and fundraising projects for ideas. Using the University of Michigan's annual charity dance as a model, Moore, with the help of Lisa Bennett '02, Corinne Lemay '04, Craig Pittman '04 and the social committee, began working out the details over the last few weeks of fall semester.

I open my overnight bag: eye drops, a bottle of water, flannel pajamas, a toothbrush and leave-in conditioner, which I had inadvertently grabbed instead of a foot massager. "Come on, team!" Moore says. "We can do it!" I look around. The collective team consists of eight other students: Gardner, Ben Brouwer '04, Jill Anderson '01, Yara Luna '03, Hilary Watts '01, Lindsay Perlmutter '03, Sommerville Johnston '02 and Ginny Hunt '03.

10: 23 p.m. The lights are turned down low. The smoke machine is hungry for attention, filling the social space with heavy fog. Brouwer, #202, introduces himself and begins dancing using his entire body. Most of us, in contrast, consciously pace ourselves, doing a few Tae-Bo moves and shifting our weight from left to right foot. "He's going to burn out soon if he keeps that up," Luna says. I think everyone in the room is a little worried about his early exhaustion.

Midnight. Food consumed: two blue cotton candies, a handful of goldfish and three plastic cups of water. There are now about 15 students on the dance floor. None of us can believe that we have been dancing for only three hours. Ben "DJ Hektik" Weber '01 plays Britney Spears's "Oops! I Did It Again!" and for the next two hours, I feel an overwhelming amount of love and affection for him. "I have a lot of respect for what you guys are doing," he shouts out over Jennifer Lopez. "Make your requests."

1:45 a.m. I am deliriously tired and so are the two other members on my team. We have been dancing for almost four straight hours. Three people—who have just arrived—walk by and tell us to keep dancing. One reminds us, "Just remember you're doing this for a good cause." I tell him, and anyone else who will listen, about my heart condition—nothing serious, but it seemed like the only legitimate justification I had for sitting on the windowsill in front of the boys' bathroom and mumbling expletives under my breath. It also seemed like a fine way to guilt-trip the people who said in their high-pitched voices, "Get up and dance." I also wanted their pity.

2 a.m. All doors of McCullough are locked. Limbo contest.

3:05 a.m. Two-thirds of the team is sitting on-stage. Brouwer is still dancing at the same rate at which he started five hours earlier. He rolls up his pants legs and drinks out of his water bottle. We are green with jealousy over his energy. "There must be something in the water," Watts says. As I am lying on the stage, I remember an earlier conversation with a friend about Suzanne Sommers and Thigh-Master infomercials. I try to move my left leg but it is asleep. My eyes follow suit 34 seconds later.

3:12 a.m. I wake up. I look at my watch and am a little disappoint-

(see 'Heroes,' page 11)

What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Sports Editor

Recently, many people have been asking me, "Hey, Bob! Why does *The Campus* only come out every other week during J-term? And by the way, may I just add that you look great today!" Well, since there's no better time than the present to answer such a query, here you go.

Back in 1891, when Adolphus Campus (for whom the paper was named, obviously) was editor-in-chief, he decided that since the average student sleeps twice as much during January than the rest of the year, two January weeks are really only one week when it comes down to it. If you still don't understand, just think about people you know who were born on Feb. 29, and try again in a few minutes. So even though the newspaper is technically bi-weekly during January, realistically it is still coming out every week.

Personally this is a HUGE issue for yours truly, because this happens to be my 25th "What About Bob?" While it seems like only yesterday that I wrote my very first column on how taking a philosophy class can screw you up for the rest of your life, it was actually 343 days ago, to be exact.

So, the more I think about it, this is probably the most important piece of work I've done for the newspaper since my sixth column, which holds a special place in my heart, for it was when I started using verbs. Yeah, those verbs really spiced things up. Of course, "What About Bob?" did miss one issue in March of last year, due to an unfortunate circumstance, in which I was given a weeklong leave of absence for continually forgetting to end my paragraphs with periods

This particular column also finds me in a little bit of sadness, for it was only yesterday that the Cleveland Browns... oops, I mean the Baltimore Ravens, grabbed my Cinderella-story G-men by the throat and, in response to my pleas for a Super Bowl, shouted "Nevermore!" For those of you who do not follow football, this was heralded as the most unlikely of Super Bowls, because the Ravens made it to the big game using only defensive players all season. And the Giants, who looked horrible in certain games, such as the one with the Rams, were actually made up of former members of the Swarthmore football team, who were booted off-campus following their season this fall.

The turning point for the Giants came when the team had just suffered a devastating loss to the Rams. After the game, coach Jim Fassell told reporters, "It will be a fluke if this team even makes the playoffs. From now on, we will play with regulation size

(see Misses, page 13)

Pack reads cosmic poetry in Middlebury 'paradise'

By Megan Michelson
Staff Writer

A lot has changed at Middlebury College over the last 35 years. One man who has been around to witness those changes is Robert Pack, professor emeritus of English and talented poet, who taught at Middlebury from 1964 to 1998.

Throughout his years here he was able to accomplish a tremendous amount, leaving a long lasting impact on the college community. Pack recently returned to campus for one week to help teach a Winter Term course, participate in a presentation on cosmic evolution, conduct a poetry reading and visit old friends and colleagues.

> **I love working with young people. It keeps me feeling fresh and youthful. Middlebury is a part of me; it's a part of my psyche.**
> **—Robert Pack, professor emeritus of English**

In his years working at the College, Pack played an important role in the English Department. He founded the creative writing program and served as director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference for 22 years.

Upon returning to campus, he noticed many improvements and changes but said he also appreciated what has been preserved. "It's bigger and more difficult to find a parking spot, but the students are still as driven and focused as they always were," said Pack.

Pack also enjoyed the opportunity to see old acquaintances. "It was a wonderful visit. I have really missed my old friends. If I had stayed any longer it would have been too hard to leave," said Pack.

During his visit, Pack contributed to Stan Bates' Freud and Philosophy Winter Term class.

"It was nice to work with Middlebury students again. They are always very involved," commented Pack.

Pack also read poetry during a joint presentation titled "Cosmic Evolution: from the Big Bang to Life and Beyond." With presentations by Professor of Biology Sallie Sheldon and Professor of Physics Rich Wolfson, the discussion gave insight into the latest scientific understandings of the evolution of the universe, while incorporating Pack's recitation of his original poems on biological and cosmic evolution.

For Wolfson, who has worked at the College for 25 years, it was a great experience to be able to work for the first time with both Pack and Sheldon. "The presentation of poetry and physics was a good way to get people interested in the subject matter," said Wolfson. Working with Pack was also an additional advantage to raising awareness and interest in the ideas of evolution. He continued, "Pack has done a lot for the College. He speaks his mind openly and is a rigorous advocate of making this a more academic and thoughtful place."

Pack himself also enjoyed the opportunity to engage in a symposium that combined poetry and scientific beliefs. "I like to think of science as another form of storytelling," he said. Physics and readings on evolution have actually inspired some of Pack's poetry. "I take material from evolutionary ideas and find ways to work that into lyric and narrative techniques," said Pack. Some other of Pack's influences include Vermont landscapes, family relationships, human intimacy and his years at Middlebury.

Author of 18 books of poetry and countless critical essays, Pack shared some of his poems at a poetry reading in Mitchell Green Lounge on Jan. 18. Poetry has always been an outlet for his thoughts and a way for him to express himself. "Poetry is a form of expression, but it's also a form of communication," said Pack. He certainly communicated his utter passion for writing to his audience.

Pack is now able to spend a little more time developing his passion and engaging in the activities that he loves best. He is currently living in Montana with his wife and teaching courses on Shakespeare and literature part-time at the University of Montana in Missoula.

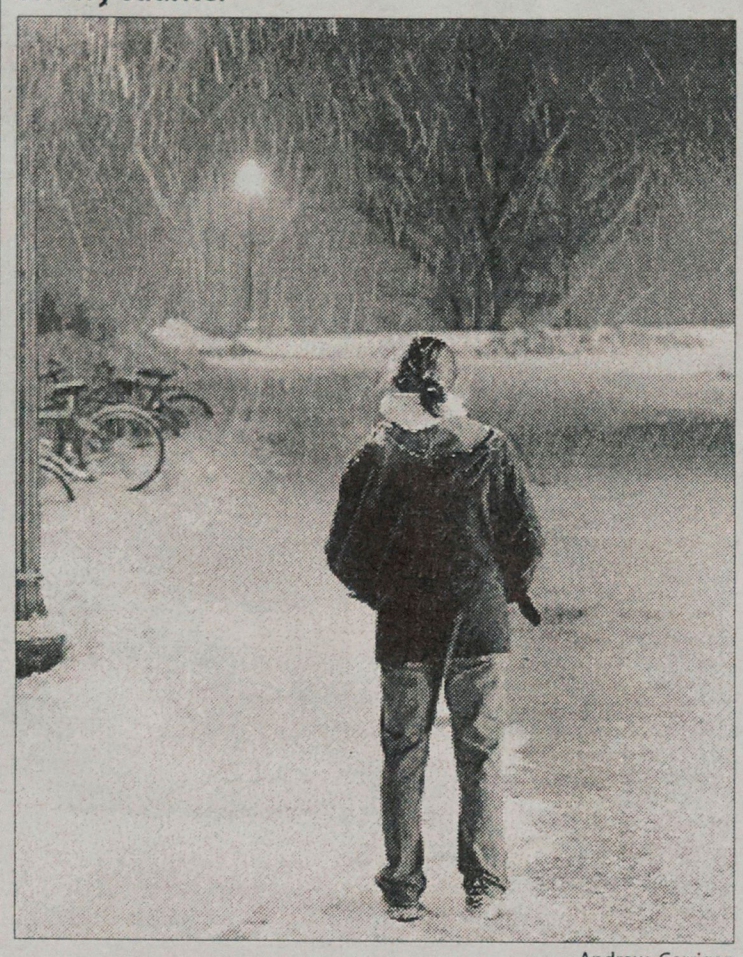
> **[The campus] is bigger and it's more difficult to find a parking spot, but the students are still as driven and focused as they always were.**
> **—Robert Pack**

"I have a little more time for reading and writing, which is a good thing for me at this time in my life," he explained.

Writing and teaching have always gone hand in hand for Pack, who still finds pleasure in instructing college students. "I strongly believe that those who love teaching should never give it up entirely," said Pack. He appreciated the opportunity to return to Middlebury and work on a very part time basis.

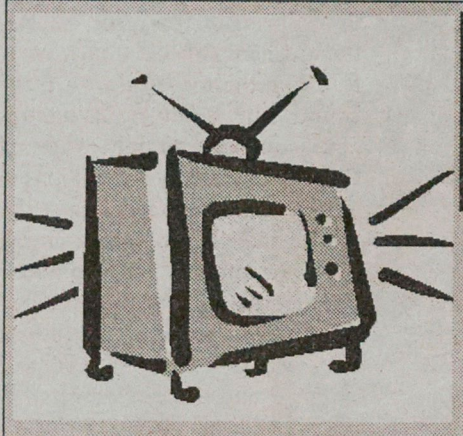
"I love working with young people. It keeps me feeling fresh and youthful," he said. Being back on campus also brought back some memories of years long gone. "Middlebury is a part of me. I've given so much of myself for 34 years that it's a part of my psyche," said Pack. Although he enjoys living in Montana, he will always fondly remember his years at Middlebury. "Give me a lively group of students and a great literary text and I'm in paradise," he said.

Snowy saunter



Andrew Corrigan

Surrounded by dancing snow flurries, *a Middlebury student treks across campus last Thursday in front of Ross Commons.*

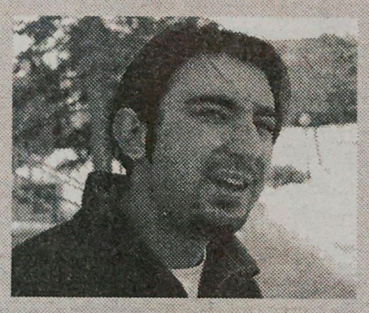


CAMPUS VOICES

What was the most important television event of Winter Term?

Compiled by Claire Bourne

Photos by Alex Westra

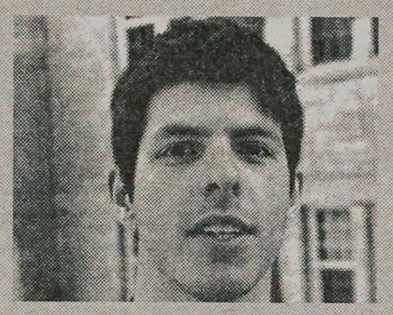


"The presidential inauguration because of Laura Bush's dress."

-Uzay Topuz '03

"The Super Bowl because it entailed eating lots of free chicken wings at The Grille."

-Ryan Denerley '03



"'Temptation Island' because it's nice to see creative new shows that confirm why TV was invented."

-Rick Jamgochian '03

"The engagement of Jack and Jill."

-McKalyn Garrity '04

Competitive, friendly spirit abounds at College Bowl

By Venessa Wong
Staff Writer

Bryan McQuade

Chris Mitchell 01 and Dave Binnig 01 prepare to buzz in at the College Bowl Tournament Thursday night.

The first two teams, "The Four Skins" and "Cod," anxiously entered the fourth floor Munroe Lecture Hall the evening of Thursday, Jan. 25 for round one of Middlebury's Third Annual College Bowl Tournament, an event sponsored by Cook Commons. After all the contestants settled in, with buzzers in tight grip, the tournament's first mediator, Justin Dreschler '02 rose before the teams and presented this question.

"Toss up: She is thought to have been the first Native American woman to visit Britain and in 1617 died there with her burial certificate giving her name as Rebecca Roth."

"Pocahontas," answered Thomas Marks '01, or as his teammates know him, "T-Dog." His answer was correct.

According to Game Play Rules, "The College Bowl is a question and answer game played between two teams of four players each. There are two seven-minute halves begun by a mediator. There are two types of questions: toss ups and bonuses. Points are scored by correctly answering questions asked by the moderator." The winner of the final round competes in the Regional Tournaments, which will be held in Providence, R.I., this year.

Traditionally, Middlebury College has ranked average in the Regional Championships. "We usually beat schools you've never heard of, like Suffolk, and lose to schools you have, like Harvard, Dartmouth and Yale," said Mike Alonzo '01, director of the event and whose player name was Meat. "We're the best of the worst and the worst of the best."

Most players agreed, however, that winning was not their incentive in participating in the College Bowl. "Most teams join for a good time. Just look at how we name our teams and players," said James Meader '01.5, whose player name on the "Pheromones" is "Son of Wrath and Pain."

Marks, co-director of the event, admitted, "Middlebury has traditionally been one of the 'chiller' schools in the tournaments. There aren't any team practices; it's pretty impromptu. Some schools are very competitive about it and have practices every day. We try to keep it fun."

He continued, "It's fun because it's being academic without being a nerd about it. It's like being the kid in class who asks for extra discussion groups except it's not about the book you've just read—it's about everything else. You really learn a lot about things that are practical."

"As long as we're in charge we definitely won't be winning on a national level," Alonzo jokingly said about himself and Marks. "But we've proudly won the Spirit Award back to back in the Regionals."

This year there were only 24 teams participating in the College Bowl compared to the usual 36. "College Bowl needs a Future," read the blackboard behind the panel of contestants, "Join now by signing the sheet."

"We're not too worried because even with just 24 teams we have about 100 people participating," said Alonzo, "but most of us are graduating this year. Basically, we're looking for someone to pass the torch on to."

The College Bowl Company Inc. is a national organization that originated as a radio show in 1953. According to The College Bowl website (www.collegebowl.com), "From Oct. 10, 1953 through June 1957, College Bowl was on the NBC radio network under the sponsorship of *Good Housekeeping* magazine. On Jan. 5, 1959, the College Bowl program became a network television show. The program's sponsor was the General Electric Company and the program became known as the GE College Bowl. It's been awarded an Emmy and the coveted Peabody Award for outstanding achievement in entertainment and education.

College Bowl was cited by Congress and entered into the Congressional Record as "entertainment at its best. In 1977, College Bowl, in conjunction with the Association of College Unions International (ACUI), organized official competition at the campus, regional and national championship levels. Every spring there is an official National Championship Tournament featuring the top 16 teams in the country. In all, over 500 schools have competed in the program. College Bowl has raised millions of dollars in institutional grants."

The final question asked during the tournament: "Toss up: They first entered the U.S. through Mexico during the term of James Polk and have been spreading north and east ever since and are expected to reach the White House by 2090. Please name these mammals."

The answer: Armadillos. With that, "The People's Elbow," made up of Richard Gallup '01, Peter Morgan '01, Daniel Graham '01 and Crary Myers '01 won the tournament.

The prize was a $75 gift certificate to Fire & Ice, and to the runner-ups, the "Senior Citizens," went a $25 certificate to Mr. Ups.

On Wednesday Jan. 31 in Wright Theater, Cook Commons will be sponsoring a College Bowl Celebrity Breath Match that will include teams of Deans, Coaches and Faculty Heads. Be sure not to miss it.

'Heroes' dance through night for charity

(continued from page 11)

ed I had passed out for only seven minutes. "Five more hours, team," Moore says while imitating Toni Braxton in her "He's Not Man Enough" video. "I think I'm making up for all the dance parties I missed," she confesses later. Watts and Luna are discussing how to get a sip of Brouwer's water. By three in the morning, all of us have mastered dancing with our eyes closed. I suddenly wish I could master Mr. Ed's art of sleeping standing up. I wonder whether it's possible to sleep while dancing. It isn't.

4 a.m. Four girls pound on the McCullough door. They offer to donate $20. Anderson tells them they can come in as long as they keep dancing. They dance until six in the morning.

5:28 a.m. Food consumed: three more cotton candies, half a sesame bagel and five mouthfuls of Doritos. DJ Dino, formerly DJ Slim, tells us we are insane. Three people are dancing. A small group is playing Twister to hip-hop. "Left leg, blue!" We are thankful for the company of friends who stopped by to dance and help keep our energy levels as high as physically possible.

6 a.m. "Back That Ass Up" plays for the fourth time. The room is full of smoke, flashing lights, completing the surreal scene. Brouwer and DJ Dino: the lone rangers, DJ and dancer. I call home and tell my mother about the dance-a-thon. I tell her how much we raised. "For dancing that long," she says, "people should have pledged more."

7:02 a.m. Perlmutter sings "Goodmorning, Texas" at the top of her lungs.

8:40 a.m. Breakfast. Bagels. Bed.

Epilogue. "It is possibly one of the most memorable nights I have spent in my four years of Middlebury," said Anderson, who raised $286 and won the first-prize airline ticket. Browuer received the MVP prize.

Anderson continued, "The lack of participation and support for Addison County Community Action Group was disappointing. The 10 that were still dancing at 7:30 a.m. are heroes in my mind—the dancers who danced 'til the sun came up did so as the few and proud who made a charitable cause their first priority for 10 hours straight. That's what the dance-a-thon is all about."

Cohen receives praise for latest novel

(continued from page 9)

ist."

One critic from Amazon.com praised the author for his well-crafted prose: "As much as this book will get you thinking, though, the greatest joy comes from the way Cohen writes. He drafts some of the most beautiful sentences I've ever read."

Cohen candidly admitted that he reacts "badly" to critics. "My wife reads [reviews] for me. We're sort of a team," he revealed. Evaluations of his work frustrate him because "most of the time there is a lot of plot summary and the emphasis on little things seems out of whack."

Nevertheless, he has learned to see the positive side of "quibblesome" critiques—he hopes to "learn something from them."

Cohen has been an instructor in the English Department at Middlebury for three and a half years, before which he taught creative writing at the Iowa Writers' Workshop, the University of Houston and Harvard. He draws inspiration from the authors he has taught here at the College. Among his favorites are Saul Bellow, Ralph Ellison and Anton Chekov. In short, he continued, "Anyone who gets you excited with what could happen in a novel."

As Eder's positive review undoubtedly reveals, people are beginning to get excited over Robert Cohen's talent for the written word. And as for critics' trivial objections, Cohen doesn't seem to be losing much sleep over them.

Pooh Corner

By Benji Perin
Staff Writer

Jenny Masiak '01 is the girl next door. She sits across from you in Proctor. On her wrist, perhaps prominently displayed, is a singing Disney watch—silver—with all your favorite characters smiling beneath the minute and hour hands. Subtle earrings, bracelets, a tasteful necklace, rosy cheeks and big brown eyes. A princess.

She dreamt she would be a princess, that is, when she was a little girl. An early fan of Disney movies and their kin (like many children around the globe), Jen visited Disneyworld for the first time when she was seven. It was then that her dream was born that she might live there someday, princess of the park.

For the last two summers, Jen has realized this dream.

A native of Brookhaven, Pa., Jen flies south for the summer to Disneyworld, along with approximately 2,500 other undergraduate students, to attend Disney College.

Working five days a week, participating in free classes one day a week and exploring the inner realms of the Disney-experience by night, Jen keeps a busy schedule during her time in Florida.

In what seems like an otherworldly experience, two years ago she landed a job in the Animal Kingdom (one of four parks in Disneyworld, including MGM Studios, Epcot Center and the Magic Kingdom as well), leading visitors through the Kilimanjaro Safari. Driving a truck the size of a small bus, she steered between free ranging giraffes, elephants, gazelles, rhinoceros, hippopotami, lions, cheetahs and more. Occasionally a rhinoceros would charge the truck, but Jen was always prepared with her cool countenance and evasive action procedures: "I usually just sit and let them run around till they're all done."

Keeping in mind that the Disneyworld compound is actually the size of Manhattan, Jen took advantage of other aspects of the park this past summer, joining the food services division as an Outdoor Foods Hostess, otherwise known, according to Jen, as the "ice-cream and beer wench."

Working the beer stand is the best of all possible vending possibilities, Jen says, because you get to chat with the customers while you open and pour the drinks—as opposed to the fast, impersonal pace of soft-drink sales.

As you may or may not know, the Disneyworld crowd is fantastically international. It took Jen the most time to become accustomed to the Brazilian guests, for whom she learned a respectable amount of Portuguese (numbers, greetings, basic conversational exchanges

(see A Cinderella, page 13)

Fires fueled College expansion, precipitated decline of fraternities

By Claire Bourne
Features Editor

College Chronicles

The time is three o'clock in the morning. You've just managed to drift off to sleep after abandoning tomorrow's reading about 100 pages short of completion. Your body aches from an afternoon practice or workout, so the warmth of your down comforter is soothing against the skin. A pillow has never felt so soft.

Suddenly, your hall's tiny red fire alarm releases a fury loud enough to wake the dead. Please, you think, I have to be dreaming. After a few minutes of willing the obnoxious noise to desist, you realize that you have no choice but to throw off your blankets, slip into a sweatshirt and slippers and head out into the winter freeze.

Fire alarms are the devil, someone next to you says. You nod in agreement, certain that someone pulled the red tab for a laugh.

What if you are wrong? What if it is only a matter of time before the vicious hands of fire dissolve the entire building into ashes?

During the College's 200 years of existence, this has happened more than once. In this, the second installment of our look into Middlebury's past, we will examine three fires that caused implications far beyond structural devastation.

Starr Hall, 1864: Disaster during troubled times

With enrollment on the rise in the mid-1800s, the board realized the need for a new dormitory. Petitioning for funds began in 1859, and after Peter Starr and family offered to underwrite most of the construction costs, Starr Hall was finished and dedicated during the summer of 1861.

The completion of this, the final building in Old Stone Row, coincided with the outbreak of the Civil War, an episode that almost caused the College to shut its doors. After having grown to 100 before the attack on Fort Sumter, enrollment hovered around 63 between 1861 and 1865 because of army enlistment. "Lower enrollments during the war and the resulting loss of revenue combined to produce a new financial crisis," wrote David Stameshkin in "The College on the Hill."

Middlebury rejected the prospect of combining resources with the University of Vermont and Norwich University. As a result, the College's "uncertain status... frightened many potential contributors, and the subscription drive slowed considerably," Stameshkin continued.

Financially strained, Middlebury was about to confront another catastrophe. Beginning around 8:30 on Christmas Eve, 1864, fire decimated the three-year-old Starr Hall. On their way back from a church service in town, several students noticed the smoking building. Evidently started by "the falling of burning soot from an open door in the base of the chimney," according to Ezra Brainerd, the blaze raged through most of the night.

Other than salvaging some personal belongings from the north side of the building, faculty and students watched powerlessly as the structure succumbed to fiery grips. "I saw that I was absolutely helpless. I made the best use I could of a single pail of water from my room in the north entry; but dozens of pailfuls were needed," Brainerd explained. Though the flames spat cinders onto Old Chapel, fortunately, no further damage was done.

Despite the College's unhealthy financial status, "the trustees immediately voted to rebuild Starr, and President Labaree and community leaders opened a concerted local effort to raise the necessary 10,000 dollars," Stameskin elucidated. Proving that Middlebury was "the town's college," the community raised enough money to rebuild the Hall by September 1865.

Nevertheless, because of these generous donations, many townsfolk did not have the resources to donate to the College in the years to come. It would take almost 20 years for Middlebury's enrollment and financial situation to climb back out of the doldrums.

The Playhouse, 1953: A Christmas 'blessing in disguise'

In another Christmas disaster, the College's old Playhouse on Weybridge Street burned on Dec. 24, 1953.

According to a report in the Jan. 7, 1954 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, "The loss incurred during the... fire involved all the valuable lighting equipment, the movie projector, the movie screen and the recorders." No specific cause was determined, though "apparently the fire started backstage and quickly burned up to the roof in the drafty old building," the report continued.

No one died in the blaze, however, Professor Volkert was "momentarily stunned" by falling debris as he attempted to retrieve some valuables from his office.

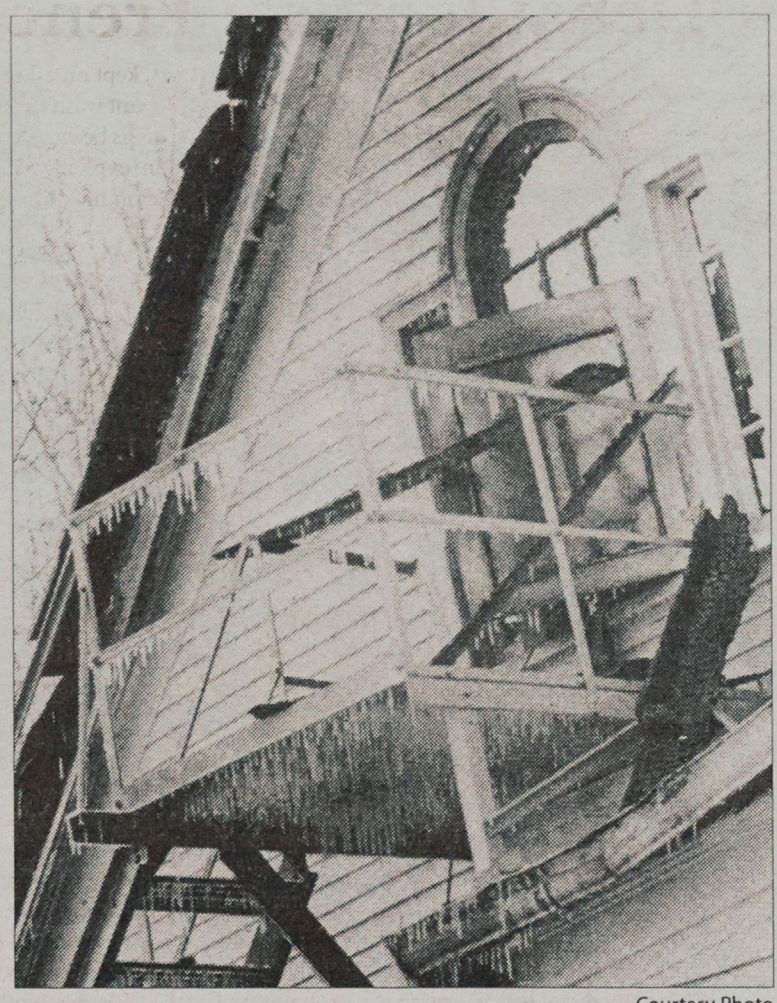
When school reconvened in January 1954, the drama department was temporarily relocated to several other buildings, while speculation about its future home buzzed around the community. Would the College modify an existing building to house a theater? Would a new one be built?

"If the college were to go for very long without adequate dramatic facilities, it would suffer an internal loss which could affect the caliber of the whole school," cautioned an editorial in *The Campus*.

"The Christmas Eve fire could turn into a blessing in disguise," the piece continued. This comment proved to be a valid insight. "Soon after the fire—and partly because of it—the trustees embarked on a major development campaign," wrote Stameshkin.

On Jan. 9, 1954, the board approved a fund drive. The first project was a 400-seat auditorium named for Charles Baker Wright, a popular English professor between 1885 and 1920, according to Stameshkin. Wright Theater still stands opposite the Battells on Chateau Road. Improved science facilities, new dormitories, including Stewart and Allen Halls, the expansion of Starr Library, a more modern student union and additions to athletic facilities on campus and at the Snow Bowl soon followed.

These facility improvements were intended to enable Middlebury to keep up with rival schools. The campaign paid off, as enrollment steadily rose during the 1950s and beyond.



Courtesy Photo

Fire ravaged the Delta Kappa Epsilon house in January 1969, raising controversy and signaling the permanent disbandment of the fraternity.

DKE, 1969: Fraternity life comes under fire

"DKE House Gutted in Blaze," read the headline on the front page of the Jan. 30, 1969 edition of *The Campus*. The Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity house went up in flames on the morning of Jan. 26, 1969, forcing occupants to vacate the building through a second-floor fire escape.

The smoke alarm did not sound, according to an alumnus who was awake at the time. Fortunately, smoke alerted him to the blaze and he and three or four other members quickly woke the sleeping residents. Barely escaping from smoke-filled rooms, two men and three women were treated for minor injuries.

When the fire department arrived, it was obvious that the house could not be saved. "Recovering in Delta Upsilon lounge, one member half-heartedly rejoiced that his draft-card had been burnt," *The Campus* reported.

The cause of the fire remained uncertain. "It may have been the embers in the fireplace, faulty electrical wiring or a cigarette," the account continued.

Ironically, the decimated house had been appraised only one week earlier and according to *The Campus*, was deemed "the least likely of the Middlebury fraternity houses to burn down."

The disaster amplified the mounting controversy over fraternities. President Armstrong commented, "The fire could have extensive implications, not only for DKE, but possibly for other fraternities at Middlebury."

The school also considered disciplinary action against the brothers when four Green Mountain College coeds emerged from the burning house, Stameshkin remarked. Dean Bruce Peterson maintained, "There was no doubt as to what the girls were doing in the building at that hour of the morning."

The fraternity never recovered, and the "Deke" brotherhood disbanded. The lack of meeting space and inadequate funds to rebuild were two reasons for the dissolution. More importantly, in December 1970, only six members remained. Reported *The Campus*, "They would essentially be starting a new fraternity from scratch, a rather risky venture when interest in fraternities at Middlebury has been declining."

Was this the beginning of the end for fraternities at the College? Certainly not the sole reason for their demise, the fire undoubtedly contributed to the administration's unfavorable attitude toward the Greeks.

In conclusion, while destroying elements of Middlebury's rich history, fires have, at the same time, served as catalysts for change. Roaring flames have sparked the realization of a loyal relationship with the town, financially set the College back even further during troubled times, precipitated a major expansion campaign, helped Middlebury keep pace with its competitors and contributed to the slow decline of

Courtesy Photo

Firefighters attempt to combat the blaze that decimated the Weybridge Street Playhouse on Christmas Eve, 1953.

Debat lecture: French view U.S. politics as soap opera

By Annie Legg
Staff Writer

Alexis Debat's lecture last Friday in the Geonomics House titled "U.S. Presidential Election 2000: A View from France" addressed what he called "the Transatlantic Syndrome" or the French perception of U.S.

Debat, who currently works for the French Ministry of Defense and teaches a Winter Term course on the CIA, explained the roots of the strained relationship between the two countries, why the French rarely concern themselves with U.S. politics and other related issues.

[Debat's] allusion to the United States as an obese gorilla dominating the couch painted an appropriate example of the importance of good relations between France and the United States.

Debat discussed the hotly contended topic of the presidential election from a new, insightful and surprisingly comic angle. According to him, the French Press published very little about the election prior to the Florida recount crisis.

When they did, it was to criticize George W. Bush's conservative platform, specifically his support of the death penalty. A demonstration was even staged outside the U.S. Embassy in protest of the capital punishment in Texas.

Debat said that Al Gore went unnoticed and that "Bill Clinton was immensely popular. I'm sure you can imagine why." He explained the French public's reaction to recent political scandals: "The Monica Lewinsky thing was like aaahhh. Those Americans... we love them..."

The French appreciate the entertainment value in U.S. politics. "You elect actors to the White House and wrestlers in Minnesota." Debat continued to explain, "Americans always insist on playing by the rules, even if that involves ridicule." He quoted a popular French saying — "Ridicule kills" — to illustrate the French attitude. "That is why French politics is so boring," he said.

Debat also went on to explain the deeper historical and psychological roots of the French love of American scandal. The French have a deep-rooted resentment towards the U.S. that started with the Pilgrims. Debat said it was when they declared America as the New World, that France and the rest of the Europe was branded with the stigma of being the Old World. The U.S. has set itself up for criticism by using the New World as a role model for democracy.

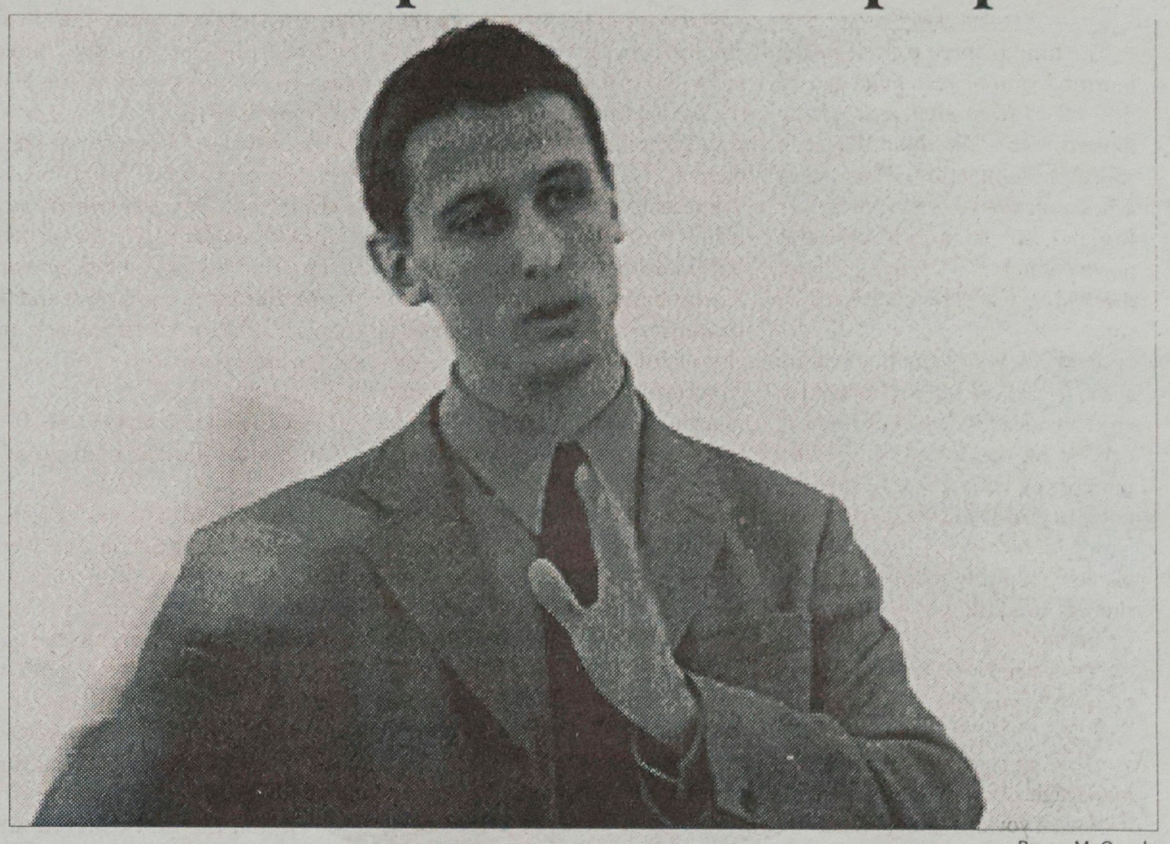
The U.S. foreign ministry has created false publicity by presenting democracy as a perfect form of government, he continued. When that begins to break down the French cannot help but point and laugh.

Debat explained that a fundamental difference between the U.S. and France is the way Americans deal with the constitution. To the French, Americans hold the constitution up as a religious document. According to Debat the French constitution is over 200 pages and has been changed over five times. Its no wonder, then, that the Florida recount was seen as a constitutional crisis when the American constitution is five pages and has not changed in over 200 years, he remarked. The French kept on asking why the Florida recount wasn't seen as a mathematical crisis because the French constitution explicitly addresses the protocol on most imaginable situations.

Because Americans turn the constitution into a Bible and "play by the rules" they often end up in ridicule. He described the irony of American society and economy always focused on being bettered, moving upward. The American political system, however, depends on a short document written over 200 years ago that we refuse to touch or improve.

Nevertheless, Debat was not above poking fun at his native country. He said that the French government was under constant renovation where the country's economy is slowly moving backward. The other problem with the "Transatlantic Syndrome" is that the French do not understand the complexity and diversity of Americans. Debat illustrated their narrow perception, "To them it is just D.C. for politics, New York for finance, and Los Angeles for Hollywood." More importantly, the French do feel a degree of personal investment in the condition of the U.S. government.

Debat demonstrated his reaction to those who feel this way: "You have an 800-pound roommate living with you, and he has the remote. You better care." Debat felt that the actions by the U.S. have the potential to affect every biological organism on this planet. His allusion to the United States as an obese gorilla dominating the couch painted an appropriate and poignant example of the importance of good relations between France and the U.S. – a relationship that has long been under strain, but not for lack of effort by officials like Debat.



Bryan McQuade

Alex Debat discussed why the French always seem to see American politics as an entertaining series of shenanigans.

A Cinderella story: Disney makes dreams come true

(continued from 'Pooh' page 11)

and "please stand in a line").

One might think that after a long day's work in Animal Kingdom, or as an Outdoor Foods Hostess, that Jen might not have the well-deserved pleasure of an exciting nightlife—Disneyworld being the family establishment that is. But you, like me, would be flat wrong.

Jen spent a few, to several evenings a week, at Pleasure Island, Disney's provocatively named nighttime attraction. Reminiscent in its intensity and hedonism of its sordid namesake in the story of Pinocchio, Pleasure Island is the adult, nocturnal version of Disneyworld. Minors need not apply without the company of parents at all times.

Including six dance clubs, two outdoor stages for music and/or videos, comedy clubs, restaurants, shops and much more, Jen paints the scene as "a Disney-McCullough." People literally dance in the streets, and sketchiness, along with its twin brother the random-hookup, abound. To avoid being picked-up on particularly hopping nights, Jen and her girlfriends would sometimes feign lesbianism to dissuade unwanted advances. This tactic was not as out-of-the-ordinary as one might think, however. The crowd at Pleasure Island reflects not only Florida's racial diversity, but what might only be understood as the unlikely, but open acceptance of homosexuality. On Thursday nights, one of the clubs, Manikins, is the unofficial gay bar for the evening.

It's there that you might see Aladdin and Prince Charming, who were dating last summer, kicking back after a long day of parades. Down the street, if you're lucky, you might find the other Aladdin nuzzling with his girlfriend, Cinderella.

Jen Masiak knows these people. She's lived the life that the rest of us only touched the sanitary surface of as children. You might recognize her by her Disney shirt, or her big smile, which she gives of freely, just like demonstrations of her singing watch. It's the smile, perhaps, of a woman who has lived a dream.

'Misses and makes': Giants, preps and verbs

(continued from 'Bob' page 10)

footballs. Our only hopes lie in them." It was that speech that later became famous for bringing the Giants to the big game.

Of course, it is not just the football that gives the Super Bowl a larger television audience than President Bush's inauguration and a... let's say an episode of Baywatch... combined. We also tune in to see the commercials, so that we will not be completely freaked out and caught off guard when our best friends come running up to us and screaming in our ears, "Whazzzzz Uuuuuup!"

This is probably the most important piece of work I've done since my sixth column, which holds a special place in my heart, for it was when I started using verbs.

Personally, I've never laughed so hard in my life as I did when the preppy Budweiser guys started screaming "What are YOU doiiiiing!?" over the phone to each other. I guess it just reminded me of my roommate, Josh, that's all.

Before I forget: There is a chance that this will be my last column as well as my anniversary one. Reading it over just now has made me realize that there is a good possibility my roommate Josh will kill me. "What are YOU doiiiiiing!?" will be my last words.

Good times, good times. Getting back to the anniversary though, I think now might be the best time to say something I've had on my mind for a long while (or, at least since I decided on how to end this week's column).

I really feel lucky to have the opportunity to give people a few laughs each week. I know that there are many misses as well as makes, but every once in a while, someone comes up to me and says that they laughed when they read such and such. And that makes my day.

Unfortunately, we live in a world full of violence, depravity and pets that are neither spaded nor neutered. But that is exactly why we must remember to keep our collective sense of humor. Therein lies the role of the comedian.

It is my firm belief... that I do not have a purpose in this final paragraph. Oh, well. Take care, take it easy and see you in February!

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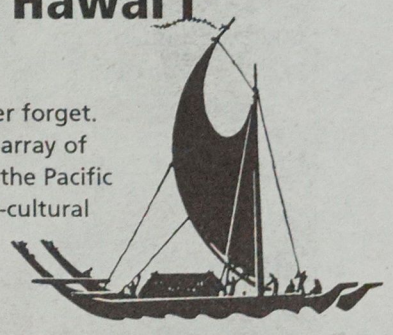

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Editorial

Bringing unity home

Middlebury College's Islamic Society has discovered that by extending beyond traditional boundaries there is a way to effect unity at home. After overcoming a semester filled with some adversities and setbacks, the College's Muslim students have, in the words of the Society's president, "gelled" and come into their own. Their story could set an example for us all.

In the midst of the worst conflict that the Middle East had seen in decades, Muslim students at the College sought for their voice to be heard through posters and events. Theirs was not an invasive movement, but simply an attempt to engage the College community in a discussion of the ongoing explosive situation between the Israelis, the Israeli Army and the Palestinians. However, there were members of the College who did not agree with the Islamic Society's message and took it upon themselves to remove their posters, or vandalize them.

The Islamic Society at the College is small, making it extremely difficult for the students to be recognized, especially when their faith is almost non-existent in the rural areas surrounding the campus. Therefore, in order to find cohesiveness within their own community they have looked beyond the boundaries of the Town and College in an effort to build a network of Muslim students at colleges across Vermont and New Hampshire. Working together with students at Dartmouth College, the president of the Society hopes to bring Muslims students together in community-building events that both encourage their faith as well as build recognition on college campuses. This branching outward will help establish a voice for an often under-represented faith. Its creation demonstrates strong initiative and perseverance on behalf of the Society and its president.

The College should also be commended for its effort to accommodate the needs of its Muslim students. Through communication and discussion, Dining Services has devised a plan to provide Hallal meat several days a week at the Freeman Dining Hall so that Muslim students will now be able to eat a healthy meal while adhering to their faith. Dining Services also accommodated the Muslim students by establishing an alternate meal plan during Ramadan.

The understated story of the Islamic Society and its development of unity after a time of adversity shows a strength and energy that should be a model for all organizations on this campus. Not only has the group found a way to come together after feeling trod upon by others, but it has also shaped a voice on campus for Muslim students and crossed College boundaries to encourage a faith that, unfortunately, could be otherwise lost within the majorities of Northeastern academia.

As discussions of diversity continue across campus, and student leaders come together to consider collaboration – let the example of the Islamic Society help set the standard for establishing minority voices at the College. Their plight proves that sometimes even the smallest minorities can forge potent voices of change.

The Middlebury Campus

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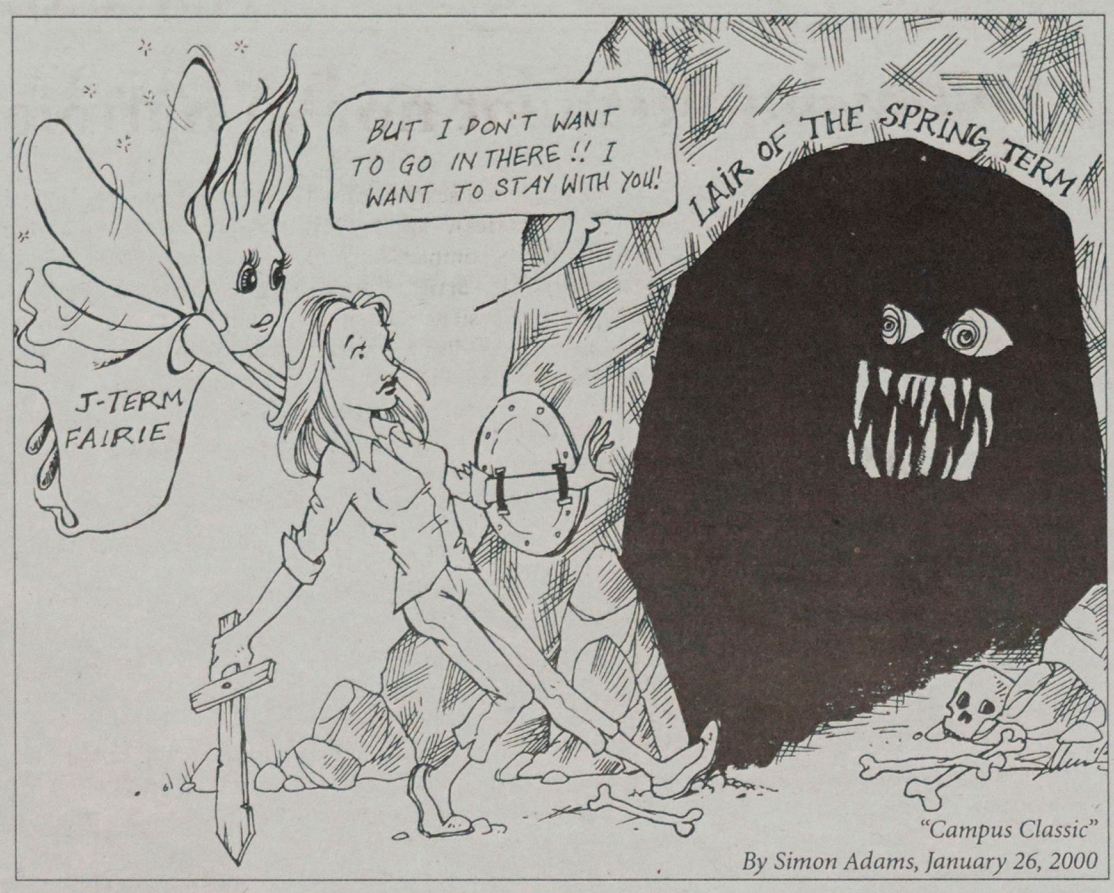


"Campus Classic"
By Simon Adams, January 26, 2000

-Michael Stahler '03.5-

The case of the missing lounges

With Superbowl Sunday festivities well under way, many people had no problem finding a TV to watch it on. In Hepburn Hall though, finding the TV was not so easy not because the lounge was taken over by another party, but because, well, the TV lounge was closed.

As I headed to dinner before the big game, I met one of my neighbors with his keys in hand trying to unlock the former Third Floor TV lounge. "One last resort. Darn! They do not work! Oh well, it was worth a shot," he said as he shoved his keys into his pocket with a depressed look on his face. "Man this sucks."

Residents now once again are exiled to the deepest dungeon of Hepburn to relax or take in that favorite sitcom. The culprit: the rising popularity of Middlebury and the record enrollment.

Residents now once again are exiled to the deepest dungeon of Hepburn to relax or take in that favorite sitcom.

Last February I became a part of the Hepburn community. We had this same TV lounge located in the basement of the building. The room was small, dark, often flooded with water from rain/melting snow coming through the foundation, and reeked of lord knows what. Many times while down there, I wondered if there were old science experiments gone bad locked up behind the myriad doors down there. There was limited seating and up until the new lounge was opened, there was a lot of damage from people who would go down there and trash the room. Forget "Survivor 2: The Australian Outback," it should be "Survivor: The Dungeon of Hepburn."

This fall I learned that we were going to reclaim third floor lounge as a TV lounge and close the basement room for good. A new TV and nice furniture were delivered. Second Floor Lounge was also reclaimed and has been used as a study area.

Since the rooms have been opened, our hall has seen less damage and residents have been using the new rooms for studying and socializing. Three weekends ago, I sat with twelve other people and watched a football game. It was a great opportunity for me to meet other people in my hall.

It is no doubt to me that these lounges have been a major asset to our community and cost the College almost nothing. As the representative of Hepburn, I have worked with other members of the Commons Council, Dean Smith and other members to build a community. Several years ago President McCardell and the trustees embraced the commons as a way to strengthen the ties of community here at Middlebury.

Adding people to Middlebury is great, and I am proud that we have a lot of people who want to join it. But there comes a point where we need to draw a line. If we have to resort to closing "public lounges," which are the only areas in the hall where people can get together, and fitting in a couple more beds here and there, then the community is weakened.

Some people here have been asking me when the College will rip out some of the bathrooms to accommodate more beds (hopefully we will never see that). If we have such a housing shortage, accept fewer people—do not punish the current residents by revoking public lounges.

As one of my frustrated neighbors put it, "Why not take-some of the money our high tuition raises and buy some more modular homes? Why not cut back on enrollment? If we do not have the room, why do we accept more people? I do not want to lose my TV room."

In this "Superbowl of sorts," the residents, and ultimately the commons and the College, are the losers.

What compounds my frustration is the fact that a few other halls are not seeing their lounges closed. A friend from fifth-floor Gifford was telling me the other day about how the College may put in a new TV in their lounge. If we are so short of space, then why are they getting a new TV lounge? Why is it not being converted into a room?

My CRA was told that every effort would be made to keep Room 300 a permanent lounge and would never be converted back to a private room, but now that promise has been broken. It does not make logical or economic sense to keep converting them back and forth.

Hepburn is an old hall, built in 1916. It has narrow hallways with little space for socializing and community building. Despite this, the residents have worked hard to build a truly dynamic community. Often times when one walks through the hall, there are doors open

(see Hepburn, page 16)

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 1000 words or less. Submit works to Campus@Middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editors.

The Campus retains the right to edit all submissions.

-Kevin King '02-

New requirement not so harmless

It took me about three days to discover that Middlebury College is in no short supply of great faculty, great students and great facilities. Yet, it has taken me almost three years to discover that the College is also in no short supply of individuals willing to make poor institutional decisions simply in order to advance personal, political and social agendas. These individuals may seem to be cloistered in various department offices or cubicles in Old Chapel, but the policy they make is very real, and very out in the open. Make no mistake, these individuals want to influence you, more specifically your mind—and they aren't asking permission.

> **I, for one, do believe that a diverse course of study is a critical element of good education. I do not believe, however, that diverse study necessarily creates any need for a diversity requirement.**

The latest case of agenda abuse comes in the form of a seemingly harmless revision of the College's cultures and civilizations requirement. Most current students are familiar with this three part academic staple, which consists of study of American, European and Other sociopolitical spheres. Currently, a faculty body is pressing forward with a revision to this requirement which would effectively relegate Middlebury to the level of scores of other colleges and universities that capitulated to the diversity fad of the 1990s.

This new requirement would force students to take classes in four of five categories. These five categories would consist of NAM (USA & Canada), EUR (Continental Europe & Russia), AAL (Africa, Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean), DIV (Diversity - issues of gender, sexuality, and ethnic minorities), and CMP (Comparative—comparisons of class structures, artistic traditions). I would hesitate to believe that anyone at Middlebury would argue that study of a wide variety of disciplines, from a wide variety of viewpoints, would be anything but beneficial to one's education.

I, for one, do believe that a diverse course of study is a critical element of good education. I do not believe, however, that diverse study necessarily creates any need for a diversity requirement. The diversity topics covered by the proposed requirement strike me as, well, exceedingly homogeneous. Those that argue for the diversity requirement and other academic programs like it generally focus on a handful of trendy causes (homosexuality, ethnic minority) to the exclusion of many, many others. Stealthily arranging this politicized diversity requirement among four other legitimate academic subject areas is clearly more than encouragement for students to pursue a true liberal arts curriculum.

> **Those that generally argue for the diversity requirement and other academic programs like it generally focus on a handful of trendy causes (homosexuality, ethnic minority) to the exlusion of many, many others.**

One of the best elements of the current cultures and civilizations requirement is the freedom it bestows upon a student to pursue study of whatever viewpoint he or she may desire. Imposing more requirements would detract from this form of academic freedom in no uncertain way. If the College is interested in increasing student focus in areas of culture and civilization, there are numerous means of doing so without force— feeding students a diet of so-called diversity courses.

One simple solution would be to increase the number of non-western cultures and civilizations courses required for graduation. This solution was likely overlooked by the faculty because it lacks leverage for those few professors who so desperately want to indoctrinate students with the right way to look at segments of politics and society. The real emphasis as far as diversity is concerned should be diversity of choice. Unless students are free from the shackles of meaningless requirements, they will never be able to pursue a true diversity of study.

Great thinkers like Eva Brann have always noted that great students will make the most of a diverse curriculum on his or her own. Unless the College is willing to admit that its claims as to the excellence of our student body, and the variety of classes included in our curriculum are false, I think Brann's point of view applies perfectly here at Middlebury.

The student committee charged with reviewing the cultures and civilizations requirement seems to agree, given its vehement disapproval of the faculty's proposal. Yet, like most other questions of policy at Middlebury, those most affected (students) have no seat at the table when the final vote is taken.

I recall a panel discussion in Chateau last fall, where various professors discussed their views on how Middlebury might better approach study of cultures and civilizations. At that panel discussion, a great divide was evident between the professors who supported more extensive and leftist requirements and those who did not. Those in opposition to agenda-driven diversity requirements all seemed to say the same thing: good students are capable of making the most of a liberal arts education on their own. Those for agenda driven requirements, like the one before the faculty today, seemed to be saying just the opposite-—that students are generally ignorant as to culture and require extensive guidance from above as to how to think and what to think about.

Diversity as it has developed through the past 20 years at various academic institutions has largely lost any of its original meaning. Rather, the term has

(see Proposed, page 16)

Letter to the Editor

Sprinting towards graduation

To the Editor:

This February the third, three more Knights of Setekh, First Order of Kheets, will depart of this worldly academic realm and enter the blessed spiritual domain of the great unknown. Oh yes, it will be that mystical because they will all be that intoxicated, which is something I always believed the commons would help dissuade, until now, for I believe nothing now.

i too will be graduating. To tell the truth, i never though i'd live this long. i was sort of banking on the 'dying young' gig. i banked quite heavily during the latter stages of 1999, when I spent much of my family's fortune purchasing 'genuine salvation' from a Christian sect just south of Waco, Texas. There were no refunds, as it turned out, but the religious outfit assured me that the salvation i bought would not expire until September of 2008, when Jupiter is set to ignite, so i've got some time.

The goal of a Liberal Education, as i'm often told, is to acquire extreme wealth, and fast. And isn't it true what they say, that the best dreams—like the best bombs—are made in pipes. i will use my liberal education as a chance to yammer on mindlessly about my lateral thinking skills.

Might I beg the graduates to remain loyal to family, friends, class, and polis, and to donate money to the causes of charity and ivory towers. Also, never wear purple. Lastly, dear editor, i apologize that i still have your checkbook.

—Marc Zelnick '00.5

Pocketbook Politics:

-Brian Ashley '04-

Speculation and prediction:

"Seeing tomorrow through today"

Man-made news has slumped a little recently. Luckily for CNN, Mother Nature took care of that lull with several natural disasters located in an assortment of third-world countries. However, while we are watching Indian earthquake disaster relief efforts on television, many changes are occurring in our wounded economy that could spell relief on a different front. Even as revenues continue to fall short of predictions, there are signs that all may not be lost and that businesses may be taking the right step toward a rebound.

The beginning of the apparent end was a torrent of lower than expected revenues for the third quarter of 2000. As our economy continued downward, more disappointing revenues and earnings reports pulled the carpet out from under stock prices and economic predictions. Until very recently, The Wall Street Journal's "What's News—Business and Finance" looked like a list of companies that were falling short of earnings and revenues expectations.

However, that trend has slowed and several rays of sunshine have peeked through the clouds. One inspiring story is that of Cisco Systems and its battles with stock prices and earnings reports. Like every other publicly owned company, Cisco tries to put the best spin on its performance outlooks. While the company is truly exceptional in the fact that in 11 years as a public company, not once has it failed to meet its earnings estimates, the stock has still suffered many blows.

Due to the positive efforts of John Chambers, CEO of Cisco, share dumping and stock price plunges as the result of missed performance expectations are not a problem for Cisco. Instead, the company and CEO have perfected the art of relieving investors' fears through the slow and more conservative method of "redefining" their previous estimates. Whereas companies that stick with their original performance estimates reap greater rewards for reaching their goals, they also suffer greater consequences for missing those goals. Cisco has learned to hedge its predictions like investments, so that while their immediate rewards are not as great, neither are their losses. As well, in the long run, the more solid performance of Cisco's stock will bring in more investors and greater success.

> **While I don't have a crystal ball to tell you what these signs mean, I know one thing for sure: don't sell anything. The best investment advice during economic disparity is to double your position and ride your losses until they turn into profits.**

More happy thoughts have appeared in the pages of the most recently published magazines. Many high-end and news publications are reporting that the number of advertisers looking for space is up almost 3 percent. This positive outlook on the future by the advertising businesses spells good thoughts for the rest of us. As soon as companies start spending more money to get our attention (and our money), it means that they think there is a hope of getting it. There is no reason to advertise in a high-end magazine during a depression, so these increases must mean that the assorted businesses think we are prime for an economic happy hour.

Hopefully they are right and hopefully we will have some growth, because if not, we will be left with the same low revenues and increased marketing costs eating away at those barometric-like profits.

In between the good news and the bad is DaimlerChrysler and its slashing of 26,000 jobs and 15 percent of its annual production. This move is complex and comes from many fronts. In one sense, DaimlerChrysler reached a point of diseconomies of scale. At its great size, costs increased faster than revenues, and the profits suffered. Hopefully this move will bring it into the economies of scale and increase its profits accordingly.

When taken from this light, the automaker's move seems to foretell good times ahead. However, if DaimlerChrysler has cut their jobs and production due to lost faith in our car-buying abilities and our future as a strong economy, we could be in trouble.

While I don't have the crystal ball to tell you what these signs mean, I know one thing for sure: don't sell anything. The best investment advice during economic disparity is to double your position and ride your losses until they turn into profits. It worked for John Meriwether (for a long while) and George Soros, and there is no reason it can't work for us.

-Phil Wood-Smith '01-

Dubya's new religious strategy lacks smarts

I found President Bush's declaration this past Sunday, Jan. 21 as "a national day of prayer and thanksgiving" ("Inauguration Day," Boston Globe, 21 January 2001 A1:1) somewhat troubling. Prior to this, he has indicated that he wants an official "Office of Faith Based Service" in his White House. I am writing caution against the path that he appears to be taking.

Both President Bush and ex-Vice President Gore played up religion during their campaigns. Both were no doubt aware that "when asked in 1999 whether they would consider voting for a woman for president, 92 percent of Americans said yes, up from 76 percent in 1978; 95 percent of respondents would vote for a black, a gain of 22 points since 1978; Jews were up to 92 percent from 82 in the votability index; even homosexuals have soared in popularity, acceptable presidential fodder to 59 percent of Americans today, compared with 26 percent in 1978. But atheists, well, there's no saving them. Of all the categories in this particular Gallup poll, they scraped bottom, considered worthy candidates by only 49 percent of Americans, a gain of a mere 9 percent since 1978." ("Confessions of a Lonely Atheist," New York Times Magazine, 14 January 2001 34:3) The same article points out that "every year, surveyors like Gallup and the National Opinion Research Center ask Americans whether they believe in God, and every year the same overwhelming majority, anywhere from 92 to 97 percent, say yes."

A person's vote is their own to cast, not to cast, or to dimple as they wish. I would, however, highlight Tocqueville's, Jefferson's and Locke's words of caution that religion and government occupy two separate and distinct spheres of existence.

What conclusions can we draw from this? Well clearly, Americans are a very religious people who want to see a reflection of those religious values in their leader. In fact, compared with other countries, the United States is surprisingly religious—very surprising if one is to believe some conservative commentator's rhetoric about the decline of moral (translated religious) America. "According to the International Social Survey Program, a comparative study of beliefs and practices in 31 nations, while a mere 3.2 percent of Americans will agree flatly that they "don't believe in God," 17.2 percent of the Dutch concur with that statement, as do 19.1 of those in France, 16.8 percent of Swedes, 20.3 percent of people in the Czech Republic, 19.7 percent of Russians, 10.6 percent of Japanese and 9.2 percent of Canadians."

So should Americans—so profoundly religious as they claim to be—consider the religious beliefs of a candidate? The Federalist Papers approve of such consideration and Alexis de Tocqueville in Democracy in America highlights the importance of religion for the maintenance of society. My opinion is that Americans should consider whatever they want to consider in elections. A person's vote is his of her own to cast, not to cast, or to dimple as he or she wishes. I would, however, highlight Tocqueville's, Jefferson's and Locke's words of caution that religion and government occupy two separate and distinct spheres of human existence. To entangle them has resulted in tyranny for the government and disillusionment, corruption and folly for the religion.

The concern I have is that George W. Bush will, through his official position as president, convey what Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor has explicitly rejected as an unconstitutional violation of the establishment clause: government endorsement of religion. In O'Connor's words, "endorsement sends a message to nonadherents that they are outsiders, not full members of the political community, and an accompanying message to adherents that they are insiders, favored members of the political community" (Lynch v Donnelly, 465 U.S. 668). President Bush can express his religious devotion by making his decisions in accordance with his stated religious beliefs and by continuing to express his personal religious beliefs openly. Official proclamation of a national day of prayer, on the other hand, is as repugnant to the Constitution as a proclamation establishing a national day of non-prayer. America, even in the face of violent acts of hatred, was built on a foundation of tolerance. Most Americans, including religious Americans, are tolerant of those with whom they disagree. I would ask President Bush to reflect that value as well.

A Little Taste of Reality

-Lisa Engelstein '01 and Ruth Howell '01-

Chew on This:

Coral Reef Degradation

Coral reefs cover less than 1 % of the earth's surface, but are the world's most biologically diverse marine ecosystem.

Coral reefs provide fisheries and other foods and are an important source of pharmaceutical compounds.

Reefs are crucial sources of employment and income in industries such as tourism and recreation.

In the above industries—medicine, recreation and consumerism—coral reefs generate about $375 billion dollars each year.

58% of the world's coral reefs are threatened by human activity, such as coastal development, destructive and over-fishing practices, overexploitation of marine resources, and marine pollution.

Specifically,
80% of coral reefs in Southeast Asia
almost 50% of Hawaiian coral reefs
virtually all of Puerto Rica's reefs
nearly two-thirds of all Caribbean reefs

In 1988, 70% of all shallow water corals died because of elevated sea water temperatures caused by the greenhouse effect.

Coral reefs are among the least monitored and protected natural habitats in the world.

Our Digestion:

The destruction of rainforests is common knowledge due to grassroots activism, yet not many people are aware of the current threat to coral reefs. One of the reasons for this discrepancy is that rainforests have been exploited for decades, whereas coral reefs have only recently exhibited signs of stress. The movement to make public the information about coral reefs is in its infancy, though we hope this article will aid this effort. Both rainforests and coral reefs are important not only because they provide biodiversity, but they are a necessary link in their local ecosystems and the entire web of life.

Coral reefs are nursery habitats for juvenile fish and therefore perpetuate the fisheries that supply the world's fine fish cuisine. Additionally, coral reefs provide protection from coastal erosion. Although coral reefs are not extensively explored, they harbor an incredible potential for medical compounds that could treat illnesses such as AIDS and infectious diseases. If this destructive trend continues, many possible cures will be lost. We will lose more than medical advances, however, we will disrupt the balance of an ecosystem. We do not feel the effects of coral reefs in our everyday lives, yet their absences will significantly alter marine life, which, in turn, will change our lives in ways that we cannot yet predict.

Hepburn TV 'dungeon' far from inviting

(continued from page 14)

and people in the hallways beckoning conversation.

Fortunately, in the recent renovations, two lounges were constructed on the third and second floors. These were the only strictly residents-only lounges since our main sitting room on the first floor is resolvable for groups and is often closed to residents for meetings. Converting these lounges may look great on paper, but it has detrimental effects to the people that I live with everyday.

After the hour-long meeting, we showed Mr. Spears the "dungeon," and he agreed that it was a bad situation.

It may be too late, but I hope that somehow the administration can rethink this and come up with a better plan that does not harm the existing Hepburn community. I wish that the Enrollment Committee would come up here and at least walk around the hall to see the lounges—both the new ones that are in question and the old, smelly, badly worn basement lounge. I also wish that they would talk to the residents here and get some input. We are paying the tuition and we live here.

On Tuesday, Assistant Provost Tim Spears and Residential Systems Coordinator Karu Kozuma did take me up on my offer to meet with residents. The room was full. After the hour-long meeting, we showed Mr. Spears the "dungeon," and he agreed that it was a bad situation. At press time, there is still a chance that the third-floor lounge can be saved. Assuming that the latest numbers, which often fluctuate, are correct, Mr. Kozuma explained that there might be a slim chance that he could "move out" those individuals currently assigned to live in the third-floor TV lounge.

Let's hope that this does happen. Until then though, the only thing we can do is wait.

Proposed requirement warrants review

(continued from page 14)

become the unifying symbol of social apologists, historical revisionists, and careerist administrators. The fact that this most atrocious element of the English language might be employed against Middlebury students in the name of advancing a few faculty members' individual agendas horrifies me.

I appeal to every member of the Middlebury community to think long and hard about our educational mission and whether a politicized diversity requirement serves this mission or not. It is my most heartfelt belief that reflection on these questions will lead all of us to agree that imposing a requirement which is tainted by even the slightest lack of definition or educational value would be a poor institutional decision.

-Todd Metter '04-

Campus camraderie needed during cold months

When I first visited Middlebury, one of the things that stood out to me was that everyone was so nice. The guy giving the information session was nice, as were the tour guides (elucidating the famous Thursday parties), the students pointing me back to the tour when I got lost after chasing around squirrels, the girls in the dining hall whom I accidentally bumped into, the guy who helped them up, the tour guide as she explained by saying that I was a prospective, the employees who cleaned up the broken glassware, and the guy who cheerfully interviewed me when I got back an hour late and was bleeding from the arm. Later, I was surprised to be accepted, and quickly matriculated, meaning to be as nice as possible, just like everyone else.

As the year began, I was thrilled. Everyone smiled, and said hi, and had the same conversation over and over: "Where from? Major? Dorm? Sports? Do you have the J.Crew catalog? Why Middlebury? Who's your daddy?" (That one was actually my own question). It was sunny and warm and friendly outside. People chatted, and formed little groups, and made friends, and girls gave me their phone numbers, and...wait. Sorry...I've strayed from my purpose in writing. The point is that everyone was super-nice at the beginning of the year. However, lately, as the weather's gotten drearier and Bush became the fifth most powerful man in the country, it seems that people have started to become distinctly less friendly. I've chronicled some precise examples to support my thesis...wait, wrong paper. Here are some reasons for the loss of courtesy:

Headphones...many people are wearing them, all the time, outside, when making long treks such as those from McCullough to Proctor. Now, I know that the background noise of snow falling on spruces is just deafening, but please. How can you enjoy the crisp air, or talk with a friend, when you're walking, hands in sweatshirt pouch, hood up, eyes down, with headphones? I can understand people who are treadmilling for hours and want to break up the routine. But walking to class? What's up with that? However, there's a good side to this—say you see someone you don't like, who's wearing headphones and listening to the music that will be played at Thursday's party. They won't hear their friend yell, "Look out!" right before you smack them in the back of the head with a big snowball. I mean, I've certainly never done this, nor has the thought crossed my mind, but...well, there are those of you who I just can't put it past. And don't get any ideas about getting me. I don't wear headphones. I'd hear you across campus as soon as you reached down for the snow. You read me? Good. Wearing headphones is just one of those little ways to diminish the friendly atmosphere that exists here.

Another thing I've noticed—the crux of my article—no one says "hi" anymore! Walking downtown, I see these girls from my class. I say "hey." They keep on walking silently. Or I see these guys from some activity or something that I did some time back. I say "Whazzzup?!" or "Hey fellas" but they just keep talking. Maybe one of them looks right at me, scowls, and goes back to his conversation. I suppose they're preoccupied with plans for Thursday night's big party. Oh well. This bothers me the most when it's one-on-one (not like that, you pervert). The other day, I was walking from Battell to the fitness center. Now, on this ten-minute walk, I passed twenty people going the other direction. Eleven made eye contact with me (and only one of those was because I tripped and fell with an audible cry into a snowbank). If they looked up, I said "Hey!" Only one said anything back—a mumbled "Hi." I know they heard me. And I know they weren't busy, unless they were deep in thought about the right outfit for Thursday's party. They just didn't respond. That's not cool at all. Do I need a new phrase, like "What are you doing?" To top it off, at one point these two girls jogged by, obviously training for Thursday's party. I shouted out, "Go Panthers!" and followed up with some dog barking noises. They just sprinted away even faster. I mean, it's not as if I hollered, "Let's go Ephs!" or "Hey, aren't you two the nude models in my art class?!" People not saying hi is just one of those little things that makes them less nice.

Why do all those people writing negative comments never identify themselves? Are you all afraid Doctor Proctor is going to break into your dorm room one night and club you senseless with a stick of garlic bread?

A final observation: what's up with the food-evaluation-card-things pinned up on that board at Proctor? It seems like too many people here wake up each day by falling off the top bunk. Over the course of two weeks, a few months ago, I examined all the new cards. There were 35. Thirty-two were derogatory. One read, "Who let the dogs out?" That one was signed "Bob Wainwright." Another said, "PARTY ON THURSDAY NIGHT!" The last one was neutral—requesting fat-free, only-organic-turnip Swedish salad dressing instead of "common" Italian. One of the negative ones really got me—it was horrifyingly malicious—explicitly cursing out the staff! What kind of nonsense is that? I'm not trying to pull a Dr. Laura; her excited-emotional-illogical exclamations are worthless, but give me a break. Show some decency. Another thing: why do all those people writing negative comments never identify themselves? Are you all afraid that Doctor Proctor is going to break into your dorm room one night and club you senseless with a thick stick of garlic bread? Show some character; anonymous negative comments are pitiful. And by the way, why are there more negative comments than positive? The food is good to great every night here! This doesn't bode well for the niceness level experienced by the kitchen staff. Also, what must visitors think when reading the board?

Is the less-than-always-sunny weather making people glum and snippy? Does my editor give me a small word-limit because he's snippy? Is it strategery? Come to think of it, there was a mandatory first-year meeting in which the virtues of the "happy lamp" were extolled—apparently this special lamp at the health center will make you feel good and joyful all over. I suggest that my editor should go sit under this lamp for many hours before reading my next article. Maybe if everyone got some of those rays before starting to dodge snowballs or play broomball or just walk around on our beautiful snowy campus, they'd be nicer about it. Although, come to think of it, it's not fun to be too nice to people in broomball...when that kid that I don't like comes skidding my way, I'm not going to think twice about cross-checking him into the fence...

Now, I've got many more issues, and groups I'd like to harass, but I'm over the word limit. My conclusion, if you weren't hopelessly sidetracked by the "who let the dogs out" joke, or the "strategery," or something like that, is as follows: people are unnecessarily being a lot less civil than they could, and should. Common decency is common sense. This decline in civility often makes me think twice about my initial glowing view of Panther friendliness. Thanks for your time. Oh, and don't forget—party on Thursday.

-Ben LaBolt '03-

Left on the Offensive

Lack of faith in Bush's newly-created religious post

In forgetting to read the word "separation" in the separation of church and state clause protected by the Bill of Rights, President Bush has created a new administrative post to allocate funds to faith based organizations so that they may implement state social programs. This Ambassador to the Vatican will allow religious groups to control programs such as hospitals, clinics, TANF allocation, drug treatment centers and community redevelopment. Since our ancestors have not paid a tithe since 1555, Americans may not be wholly interested in allocating tax dollars to private religious organizations.

Bush selected a political science professor from the University of Pennsylvania to give the semblance of political and constitutional legitimacy to this unfounded position. In defending his selection, Bush administrative officials described John DiIulio as "a social scientist who believes in empirical evidence." Religious organizations, however, are not guided by empirical evidence, but by faith and their interpretation of morality. It seems as if Mr. DiIulio's career in empirical and policy analysis might be redirected by the unempirical morality of faith based organizations, freeing up his job punching numbers so that he can help tack the Ten Commandments on the walls of science classrooms in public schools.

Are there real consequences to Bush's proposed civil union of church and state? Unlike public service organizations implementing what the state mandates, religious organizations can impose their moralistic views on social services. I do not foresee the Catholic church running needle exchange programs to curb disease in drug rings, suggesting contraception as an alternative to the rhythm method, or handing out a list of abortion counselors to troubled teenagers. The Nation of Islam would probably not be an appropriate umbrella organization to run a counseling clinic for divorced women. Yet these are all jobs of state run social organizations. Furthermore, the standards of public accountability that state run programs are scrutinized under will not fully extend to private sector faith-based organizations. While the public accepts positions taken by the Catholic church because they are privately determined within the church's hierarchy, it holds state services under close scrutiny, making sure that tax dollars are spent in an acceptable fashion. Empowering faith based organizations to control social services takes away the decision making power of a democratic society.

What does Bush think faith based organizations will contribute? Why replace a governmental bureaucracy with a religious bureaucracy just as extensive, except with a separate agenda and without an obligation to provide services disagreeable with its tenets? Bringing in new service providers is no way to trim down a bureaucracy. Bush's campaign commitment to small state-oriented government is becoming farcical after a federal accountability in education mandate, followed by the introduction of an extensive religious bureaucracy into the governmen. The efforts of the Clinton-Gore Administration to eliminate bureaucracy through their National Performance Review Commission have been significantly set back by the government's newest self perpetuation movement – sending the clergy to Washington.

The slippery slope version of these concerns also has some validity, considering Bush's record in Texas. For a man who declared a statewide Jesus Day, there may be no stopping how far he allows religious groups into the political process. Bush passed a Charitable Choice initiative in 1996 which mimics his proposal at the federal level. The results are clear. Funds were renewed to accredited Christian organizations in which there were documented cases of abuse against disadvantaged youth, the lack of diversity in the clergy has transcended to the governmental level, faith based organizations participating were almost entirely Protestant Christian organizations, and drug treatment centers moved toward faith-based solutions rather than chemical and physical treatment programs. Bush is evidently hoping Americans will join him in his journey as a repentant Born Again, eliminating public choice from the matter.

For a man who declared a statewide Jesus Day, there may be no stopping how far he allows religious groups into the political process.

Bush is at the vanguard of the Republican agenda to enforce a religiously based morality on Americans. He "trusts the people" except in their determination of their most sacred, individualistic and private values. In this case, he'll defer to Pat Robertson to tell the public how to behave. A pubic-private partnership with faith-based organizations endangers the quality of our social services and empowers religious groups in determining federal policy. It is an unprecedentedly conservative move unacceptable anywhere this side of Bob Jones University.

'One Flea Spare' sweeps through Hepburn Zoo leaving mark

By Meg Taintor
Staff Writer

The experience of entering the theater for the production of Naomi Wallace's "One Flea Spare," the senior work of John Richardson '00.5 and Morgan Bicknell '01, was that of stepping into an unknown world of superstition and terror. Over the stone entrance to the Studio Theater hung a large red cross, flanked by two immense dolls of straw. Poster boards informed the audience of the quarantine proceedings of the plague years in London.

Courtesy Photo

"One Flea Spare" ran successfully in the CFA Studio Theater last weekend.

As the lights fade to black, a girl's panicked breathing can be heard -- a child gasping in terror and exhaustion for air. Quick flashes of light show glimpses of the child's flight across the roofs of the city, and then suddenly, there is Morse (Bicknell), the 12-year-old through whose eyes the story of One Flea Spare would be told.

The story is a deceptively simple one: Darcy and William Snelgrave, an elderly couple played by Susie Carter '02.5 and Jim Sparnon '00 respectively, are nearing the end of their month-long quarantine in the plague-ridden London of 1665. Once free, they will be able to flee the city, which has become a death trap for those unlucky enough to have gotten trapped there. On their last day of confinement, the quarantine is broken by the separate arrivals of Morse, a servant girl impersonating a young lady of the nobility, and Bunce, a sailor looking for shelter (played by Jay Dunn '00.5), and all four are sentenced to another 28 days of imprisonment.

Four prisoners in a house, two from the upper class and two from the lower class, are guarded by their gaoler, Kabe (played by Jesse Hooker '02), who, though from the lowest class of all, wields a more real and immediate power than any other character in the play. What ensues is an investigation of class relations and personal relationships, and the power struggles contained therein.

One striking aspect of the performance was the seamless flow of the action through the 20 scenes. The choreography of the play within the space flowed as seamlessly as the poetry of the text, making the transitions in space, time and emotion not logical and coherent but also a vital tool in the development of the characters' relationships. The actors never dropped character but rather carried their performances through the transitions, and thus the characters were given even more depth through their wordless interactions.

> ...Cohen played everything from the opening themes to the triumphant climaxes with such power and beauty that the audience was mesmerized to the last moment.

The relationships explored in the play are fascinating. In a world as claustrophobic as the quarantined house, alliances and power structures shift with alarming speed. Many of these changes come through the character of Bunce, who is used by both of the Snelgraves as an object of fantasy: For Mr. Snelgrave, he is both a child to be schooled in the ways of history and an adventurer from whom great stories can be learned. To their credit, Sparnon and Dunn developed a kind of rapport that could shift from a kind of tenderness to sheer malice at the drop of a hat. Or a shoe.

For Darcy Snelgrave, a victim of burns so bad that she has no feeling left in her skin, Bunce is a fellow physical cripple (he sports a wound in his side that bleeds continuously), and a potential lover. Indeed, this relationship was the most difficult of all to realize since the script calls for an age gap of close to 25 years between the two (with Darcy as the elder) and for those 25 years to have held a life-time of pain and sorrow. In a way Darcy needs to be a walking corpse who will be resurrected during the course of the play; the difficulty here stems from the fact that Dunn and Carter are both clearly in their early twenties and beautiful. However, while the component of age and appearance was lost from this production, little else in the relationship was: the tensions of the interactions between the two were breathtaking.

If Bunce is the object of fantasy for the Snelgraves, he is also most definitely a participant in those very fantasies. It was fascinating watching Dunn carefully modulate his behavior and accent to fit whatever mood might be required of him in a given scene. More than in any recent production, this play illustrated how little continuity and logic we have in our lives, and how we should no more demand an over-arching pattern in a character than we would in ourselves.

The character of Morse is a particularly good example of this, for Morse is no more constant in her behavior than any 12-year-old. Although originally grateful to be taken in by the Snelgraves and treated as one of their own, she begins rebelling almost immediately and jeopardizes her tenuous position in the house more than once. Bicknell created a wonderfully alive child who watched those in power cannily and swayed to whomever could protect her at that particular moment. By turns cruel and knowing (she becomes a prophet at the end of the first act) and innocent and kind, Bicknell's fey Morse served as the perfect centerpiece for the tale.

The most riveting character in the play, however, is not one of the prisoners, but rather Kabe, their gaoler. It is precisely because the play is so claustrophobic that the audience longs for his arrival, and when he comes, Kabe brings with him, in his person and his speech, the greater world of London and the plague. He is both gaoler and life force, for he controls the prisoners' connection to the world outside. Hooker's performance

(see Disease, page 21)

Quartet warms winter freeze with Bartok cycle

By Kate DeForest
Arts Editor

The acoustics in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall are some of the greatest I have ever been exposed to, and certainly the only that have made me, as an audience member, self-conscious about my own breathing, being able to hear that of the musicians onstage. From my seat in the balcony (another fine feature of the venue, the 360 degree one tier balcony provides every ticket-holder with a wonderfully unobstructed view of both performer and audience) I waited for the leather padded piano bench and three plaid upholstered chairs to be populated by the four world-class musicians the program advertised. At about 15 minutes past the hour of eight, (I supposed one can suffer a short delay for a magnificent rendition of three of Béla Bartók's six string quartets, the other three having been played during their performance earlier in the week) four men in matching tuxedoes stride across the stage, warm-toned instruments in hand.

The musicians, Edward Dusinberre (violin), Károly Schranz (violin), Roger Tapping (viola) and András Fejér (cello) compose the Takács Quartet. The Quartet came to perform at Middlebury College buoyed by some impressive credentials, most notably: holding a Residency at the University of Colorado since 1983, being Resident Quartet at the Aspen Festival and Visiting Fellows at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London. The latter accomplishments are in addition to their extensive touring (over 40 concerts in the U.S. alone, not to mention Europe, Australia and Japan) and recordings (their Bartók cycle recording garnered them the Gramaphone "Chamber Music Recording of the Year").

Upon their return to the College, (they gave a concert during the 1998-99 season) the Quartet was greeted by the eager applause of an expectant audience. As the musicians took their seats, throats cleared and programs settled upon laps in effort to bar any interruptions during what was to be an extraordinary listening experience. Bow was put to string, and the concert began.

Bartók's quartets are very mathematical, intellectual pieces, very much concert material. Each note is a premonition of the note to come, the progressions seem inevitable until suddenly, jarringly, a sharp violin treads upon the expected, causing the audience to somewhat re-evaluate their judgment of the music. In short, though classically trained musicians or extremely knowledgeable listeners may settle down into a warm bath on a Sunday night, Bartók piping in through surround sound speakers, it's not the music I would chose for pure listening pleasure (listening enrichment perhaps).

A notable exception to the latter description (and what composer would be considered great, as Bartók undoubtedly is, if the entire body of their work could be described in a parsgraph) is the highly playful Allegretto Pizzicato, the fifth movement in String Quartet No.4. Laying their bows aside, the four delicately arched hands began to pluck, releasing rapid sonorous notes, spilling them across the stage. At one point, Dusinberre leaned across to Schranz, having played a loud, sharp single note. The assertiveness and playful nature of the Pizzicato almost guarantees it audience approval. There is something about a classical musician letting his hair down (so to speak), breaking away from the stereotypical stuffiness that can be associated with the music.

I don't mean to say the Quartet played without spirit otherwise, such a statement would be as gross

(see Appreciative, page 20)

Ben Brower

The legendary Takács quartet performed the music of Bartok at the CFA Concert Hall last Saturday night.

Arnaldo Cohen's deft piano skills prove he's right on key

By Nikki Holland
Staff Writer

Deterred by neither snow, freezing temperatures, nor the pull of a Middlebury hockey game, students, professors, and members of the Middlebury community packed the Center for the Arts Concert Hall, Friday, Jan. 19 in anticipation of the performance to come by virtuoso pianist Arnaldo Cohen.

Cohen wowed the audience with the preciseness of his talent by performing Busoni's arrangement of the Bach D Minor Chaconne, Brahm's Handel Variations and the four Ballades by Chopin.

Born and raised in Brazil, Cohen began his musical career at the age of five, coming to the attention of critics as well as the public after his graduation from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. Holding honorary degrees in piano and violin he became a professional violinist in the Rio de Janeiro Opera House Orchestra but did not cease his study of piano. Strongly encouraged by Jaques Klein, a disciple of William Kappell, Cohen continued his training in Vienna under the instruction of Bruno Seidhofer and Deiter Weber. In addition to playing the major European concert halls as a soloist, Cohen has appeared in the Amadeus Piano Trio and with the Lindsay Quartet, Chiligirian Quartet, Orlando Quartet and Vanbrugh Quartet, travelling through Europe and South America. Cohen debuted only very recently in the United States, playing for the first time in New York in 1997. Just this season Cohen has performed in recitals in Philadelphia, Toronto and Baltimore, appearing also with the Spokane Symphony, Peoria Symphony and the New West Symphony. His own recordings include a critically acclaimed collection of works by Liszt.

Needless to say, the Middlebury community was delighted to have such a seasoned performer visit, proving this not only with their attendance but also with their rapt attention to every piece and endless applause.

Cohen began Friday night's show with an arrangement of the Bach D Minor Chaconne by Busconi, a composer of the Italian romantic school. The term "chaconne" has its origins in Spain, where it was used in reference to Spanish dance and may have come from the Basque word for pretty. Although pretty may have easily described the origin of these variations, this work would not have been fair for the entirety of the piece.

After each of the variations Cohen jerked his hands from the piano as if pulling away from whatever force had allowed him to capture the spirit of a particular emotion of theme.

Visibly moved by waves of emotion, Cohen was in constant movement, his shoulders undulating with the themes and his feet beating rhythms into the stage. At the end of this piece he paused and sat silently at the piano bench as if gathering the strength to raise hmself and bow deeply to the praise of the audience.

Cohen's second piece, Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Opus 24, was just as exhausting and exhilarating as the first. After each of the variations Cohen jerked his hands from the piano as if pulling away from whatever force had allowed him to capture the spirit of a particular emotion of theme. The awesome power of the final fugue although derived from just a few notes of the Handel theme, was so impressive that the audience burst into applause before Cohen had even had a chance to stand up and bow. Following the intermission, Cohen returned only to surprise the audience even further with his mastery of all four of the Chopin Ballads. Based on the poetry of Adam Mickiewicz, a Polish political exile and friend of Chopin, the four Ballads barely contain enough consistency or uniformity to be defined as musical structures. These four works were so distinctive that Chopin invented the new genre of ballad for them from an ancient term with narrative and folkloric connotations that fit these evocative pieces perfectly. With their unique structure, the Ballads contain contrasted thematic material and constantly switch between themes of innocence and romance, characterized by soft chords and simplicity, to great outbursts of violence and drama contained in cascading notes and harsh cadences. Throughout these Ballads, Cohen constantly looked surprised, as if the music coming form the piano was mysterious even to him. Varying between caressing the keys and assaulting them, Cohen played everything from the opening themes to the triumphant climaxes with such power and beauty that the audience was mesmerized to the last moment. The sound of the last note of Chopin's fourth Ballad propelled the audience from their seats and they erupted into applause. After three appearances back on stage Cohen was finally convinced to perform an encore for which everyone stayed to listen.

Niki Holland

Arnaldo Cohen played the music of Busoni for his lucky patrons at the CFA concert hall last Saturday night.

Feld ballet triumphs, 'Organon' soars

By Elizabeth Logue
Associate Editor

One could almost hear the dancers, new and old, present and retired, reciting in unison, "Happy Birthday, Mr. B! This is for you." And would George Balanchine be most appreciative of the gift, the gift of new dancers and fresh choreography? I think so. Elliot Feld's newest work of genius, "Organon," utilizes some 63 dancers, including New York City Ballet royalty Damian Woetzel, Charles Askegard and Maria Kowroski, for an over-the-top performance of physical control, musical perfection and massive set design.

With the exception of Woetzel, who opened the show in stillness between the two organists, the dancers walked on, single-file from the side audience doors clad in black leotards and black pointe shoes for the women, black socks for the men. Backs slightly arched and feet distinctly turned out, they walked creating captivating geometric patterns around Woetzel and the musicians who were centered upstage. Finally settling in chorus-style risers, Woetzel began a solo which would prove to be one of the most difficult male solos on the City Ballet repertory.

Awkward turns and landings, combined with unnatural directions, Woetzel tackled the solo from a technical standpoint with efficiency at best. While brilliantly choreographed, many of the combinations seemed to be executed successfully only because of a stroke of luck. Woetzel was, I suppose, lucky Tuesday night, and redeemed the occasional misstep and off-balance by an overwhelmingly moving artistic performance.

Woetzel seemed to direct the music and the other dancers with his entrancing stage presence and confidence. Eloquent and poised, Woetzel moved quickly, but clearly, across the space hardly touching the floor with his lightness. From his extended solo, Woetzel is carried offstage by three men, but again emerges scaling an elaborate tube structure suspended high above the length of the stage.

Seemingly symbolic of a journey through life, death and resurrection, Woetzel moves with startling precision on the uneven tubing and displays coordination and control when he removes his leotard, donning only a jock strap. At this point in the "Organon," however, Woetzel's trek across the set is not the main feature, but rather Kowroski and Askegard's richly sensual pas de deux.

Ms. Kowroski literally stretched herself to new heights, finding herself in numerous contortions of splits and high developpés with the help of Askegarde. This is not the only time this season that Kowroski and Askegarde have been partnered; the two danced in Tomasson's "Prism," and received a standing ovation for Kowroski's grace and Askegarde's strength. This performance was no different, and perhaps even more impressive was the obvious connection made between the two dancers, who literally performed as one entity, reacting to only to each other and the organ music of Bach.

The 60 other dancers entered and exited the stage throughout the piece, often times dancing in circles around Kowroski and Askegarde, which created an untouchable, yet oddly supernatural, aura around the couple. Without flaw, the corps de ballet, which consisted of about 30 students from the School of American Ballet, danced expressionless, but with a

(see Out, page 21)

Clemmons captures new and old spirituals

By Craig Hall
Staff Writer

Captivating students and local residents alike, Dr. François S. Clemmons, Alexander Twilight artist-in-residence, once again brought the rich musical tradition of the American Negro Spiritual to Middlebury. On the evening of Jan. 18, Mead Chapel was filled as Clemmons, accompanied by pianist Cynthia Huard, worked his way through an impressive repertoire of spirituals, encompassing both widely known and more obscure pieces. Filling the breaks between songs with anecdotes and other stories, Clemmons thoroughly entertained and educated his audience.

Resplendent in a dazzling silver jacket, Clemmons immediately became the center of attention in Mead Chapel.

Clemmons has invested considerable time and effort in the preservation and promotion of the American Negro Spiritual. An acclaimed tenor, he is the founder of the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble, which after its 1986 inception has since traveled throughout North America and around the world. Consisting of six singers and two accompanists, this group envisioned greater fame for this often marginalized musical tradition.

Clemmons is currently teaching a Winter Term class about the American Negro Spiritual and its effect on Western civilization. Students of this class came together on stage with Dr. Clemmons, the Middlebury College Choir and various members of the audience later in the program for hands-on experience in a "Spiritual Sing-Along."

Resplendent in a dazzling silver jacket, Clemmons immediately became the center of attention in Mead Chapel, greeting people individually and taking a mock attendance for his Winter Term class in his richly textured tenor voice. Putting this gift to good use, he began with his own arrangement of "In Bright Mansions," a beautiful spiritual, whose restrained, yet powerfully soaring melody delighted the audience. In anticipation of more good music to come, all listened attentively to Clemmons' sincere gratitude to all in attendance, stressing that "people are the most important thing in life." He mentioned that there is a destiny beyond the realm of human flesh and that he was glad in that respect that "people had come to create something together."

Clemmons sang more well-known spirituals such as "This Little Light Of Mine" and "Deep River," and more obscure ones such as "On Ma Journey Now" and "Ma Soul's Been Anchored In Duh Lawd." Whether a specific spiritual was recognized or not, all present could attest to the impassioned beauty of both the music and the singing. Noting that a large portion of his selections contained references to water, Clemmons shared that in prayer and meditation before the performance, he had pictured himself on a ship in strange waters. Grinning broadly, he then announced that "it wasn't long before the ship could fly." One could do no greater justice than with such a performance. Amen.

'Short Attention Span Theatre' holds onto audience's interest

By Maura Whang
Arts Editor

The debuts of seven original plays, performed in two installments starting Friday, Jan. 19 and ending Sunday, Jan. 21, certainly rang with the voices of amateur playwrights, but also with undoubted knowledge and experience. Advertised as each show being only 10- minutes long, the time I spent in the Hepburn Zoo felt deceptively longer. It was amazing to see what messages these young playwrights could convey in so short of a production.

The students of the Fall 2000 TH 218 class were given the opportunity to present their own written plays, and according the program, "a rather large number of playwrights leapt at the chance." All the directors were amateurs as well, but these collaborations were well worth the dollar admission. I was impressed with the written talent of my fellow students, who raised some intelligent questions about competition, fear, love and death.

In "Adrenalin," written by Alex Poe '03 and directed by Jen Driscoll '02, it was once again a pleasure to watch Sam Elmore '00.5, who played a college student smuggling heroin back to the U.S. from Thailand. The rapport between Elmore and Damian Washington '03, the man who convinces him to go along with their plan, was excellent, with Washington's urgent preaching balanced out by Elmore's uncanny uncertainty. The script was clever, as it alternated between Elmore's thoughts and his interactions with the customs agent, effectively played by Ben Correale '03.5, Washington, and a college student he meets in the airport, played by Tricia Erdmann '03.

The next play to be performed would have been "The Year of the Monkey," but due to an illness, it was cancelled at the last minute. Writer Jen Driscoll did however get to direct "Adrenalin," and director Meg Taintor '01 had her play "In Vino Veritas" performed, so the two still were able to partake in the event.

Perhaps the most seemingly easy to understand play was "Anniversary" by Bryn Kenny '01. Director Joya Scott '03 created "rooms" on stage in the home of a rich, but unhappy family. Poe, Kate Pines-Schwartz '03 and Claire Hawley '04, certainly did have the detached relationships that the script called for, but it was unclear whether this was just a result of the actors not connecting. Daniel Dozier '04 added a hint of comedy as the French butler, entering just as the scene was getting too intense to handle.

Adam Sewell '03 and Sarah Peters '03.5 were excellent in "Smoke," written by Emily Wasserman '02 and directed by Chris Timberlake '01. The scene began with Peter's Molly seductively dancing to a song by the rock group "Garbage," and then committing suicide by gunshot. The rest of the play continued in this dark, eerie world, described by Sewall's character as neither heaven nor hell, but as a place where he would rather not be. His acting was distant and cold, and even a bit maddening, especially with his repeated usage of a tuning fork ringing in his ear. The play ended with another bang, contrasted with the slow paced body of the text, when Sewall took a slab of concrete, emblazoned with an image of Peters' shooting herself in the head, and slammed in into bits on the floor. Here we had the beauty of violence, or even the violence of beauty being thrown in our faces.

His acting was distant and cold, and even a bit maddening, especially with the repeated usage of a tuning fork ringing in his ear.

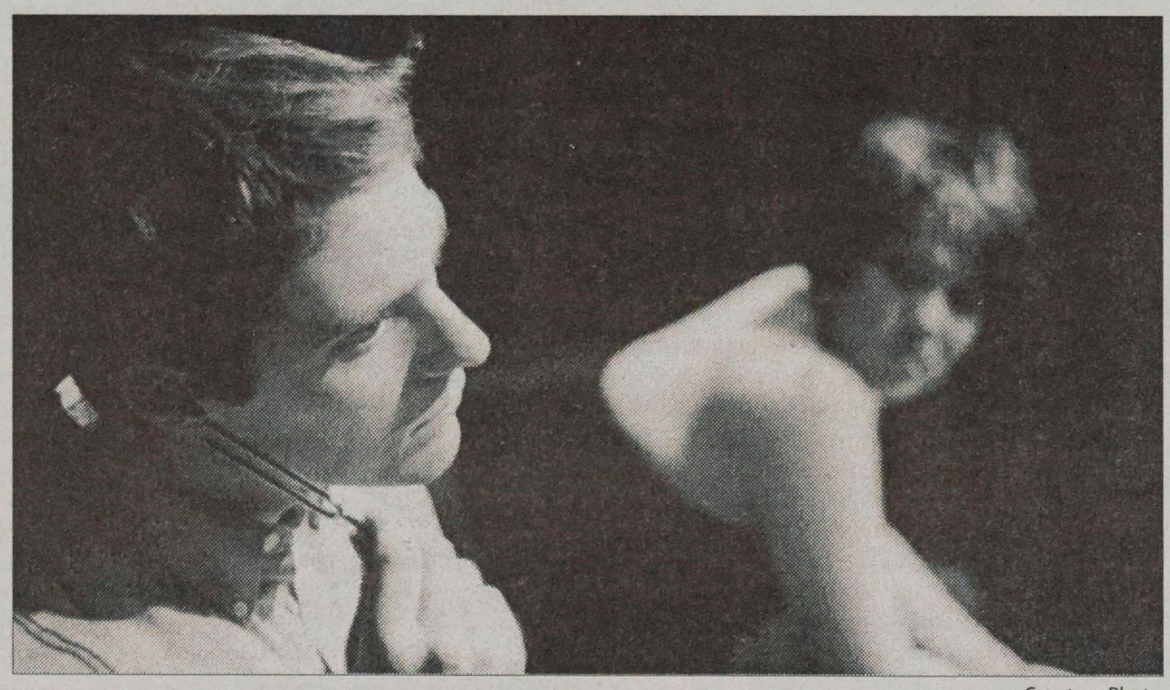
"For the Record," was one of my favorite plays, as writer Tom Marks '01 used elements of deception and irony to tell his rather comedic story. Steve Waltien '00.5 was once again hilarious as a man who thinks too much for his own good. He played the number-one world record holder, who is spoofed into love by his competitor, Alex Moody '04, who during the course of the play reveals her true sexual identity as a man. How much is being first place worth? Waltien was so human in delivering this inner battle between lust and love.

Meg Taintor's script for "In Vino Veritas" was excellently conceived, and the intricacies of her thought process were very apparent. Using riddles and word games shared between the actors, Joya Scott '03 and David Heyman '03, the play unfolded as a simple apropos "date." The acting was a bit cliched, but I enjoyed watching Heyman's almost helpless character.

Perhaps the best play overall, "Information," written by Poe and directed by Nick Olson '02, was a result of the intensity running throughout the entire show. Businessman Dave Gaddas '03 played an irritated character about to be fired due to the workings of Ben Correale. Their relationship was stressful but fun to watch, and the premise of the script, which took place in corporate America, raised some issues of integrity and loyalty. What "Information" gave us was two greedy men, with only a huge desk dividing them. In the end, there is no more integrity, as both men eventually resort to trickery to win.

"Things Nothing" was beautifully acted and directed, and although I was not always able to follow the spoken words, written by Tim Brownell '02, the overall emotions it evoked made me think. In a hazy scene, actors Nick Vail '02 and Erin Kunkel '03 converse, or rather argue over whether Vail should remain in his state of being in a coma. The premise of this show was oddly similar to that of "Smoke," but whereas "Smoke" was much more violent, "Things Nothing" exuded a more comforting and peaceful feeling. The actors seemed more comfortable with each other's presence on stage more so than did actors in some of the other plays.

The production was named "Short Attention Span Theatre," but each play held my interest and thoughts long after they were performed. What I saw was extreme talent in theatre and inner thought, and I look forward to either continuations of these or entirely new shows in the future.



Courtesy Photo

Adam Sewall '03 and Sara Peters '03.5 perform a scene from "Smoke" as part of the Short Attention Span Theatre.

Realism rides high in 'Traffic'

By Mike Csaszar
Staff Writer

In a day and age when Hollywood seems to glamorize, exaggerate and manipulate the truth, it was refreshing to see a down-to-earth, in-your-face portrayal of the hard facts. "Traffic," starring Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones fulfilled its promise to expose the horrors, corruption and social destruction created by illegal drugs.

Michael Douglas, referred to as the "Drug Czar" (no relation to Mike Csaszar) plays a hard-nosed judge who is promoted to the head of the DEA. His mission from the onset is to destroy one of the two notorious Mexican drug cartels. When making decisions in his cozy executive office in Washington, D.C. is not enough, Douglas goes to the battlefield: the U.S./Mexico border near Tijuana. Throughout the film we hear testimony from various government officials about the true war on drugs. For every $1,000,000 the U.S. spends on drug enforcement, the drug cartels spend $10,000,000; for every truck load of cocaine the border patrol stops, 20 make it through. Put simply: the law is being overpowered by the law-breakers.

While Douglas is busy battling the cartels, Zeta-Jones is on the other side of the conflict. Her husband is on trial after recently being arrested for cocaine trafficking. The third story-line of the movie takes place right in Douglas' own house. His 16 year-old daughter and her fast-track friends begin experimenting with marijuana and alcohol, moving onto heavier substances like cocaine and eventually crack cocaine. Ironic that the daughter of the most powerful drug enforcer in the country is taking bong rips right on his living room sofa. His daughter's addiction eventually progresses to the point when she turns to prostitution to pay to get her fix, furthering her downward spiral.

The movie's fast pace and multi-faceted plot make for an entertaining 135-minute flick. Don Cheadle (ala CBS's "Picket Fences") is fantastic in his supporting role as a police officer in the line of fire. He and his partner are on the frontline making large scale cocaine busts and tracking Zeta-Jones' private life in attempt of getting leads into her husband's life. This, amidst the other conflicts in the movie makes for a thrilling ride that keeps one wanting more.

In talkshow interviews with cast members as well as the media coverage, the biggest focus has been on "Traffic's" factual accuracy. A former DEA official was enlisted to remain on set during filming to ensure that Douglas' role was properly portrayed. The unfortunate truth is that many police officers and innocent victims die as a result of drug wars. Teenagers like Douglas' movie daughter often fall prey to the lure of the thrill of an altered state, and become helplessly addicted.

A star-studded cast, a fast-moving, intricate plot and a precise portrayal of the facts make "Traffic" not only an entertaining movie but also a wake-up call to society. In the wake of many legislative measures to legalize marijuana this past election year and in light of our recent heightened awareness of teen drug use and abuse, perhaps now is the time to confront what is really happening these days, from our international borders to our own homes.

Appreciative audience, eloquent Quartet

(continued from page 18)

a mistake as saying classical music is dead. Their agile, dexterous hands were accompanied not only with the flawless performance of three Bartók quartets, but also with a great deal of feeling, swaying backs animated expression.

At times I was unsure as to which was a better example of moving with the music, the tapping feet, bobbing heads, or shaggy mane of violinist Schranz. The stage presence of these men, though different, is just as strong as their contemporaries, The Emerson String Quartet. Years of practice and recital, concert and rehearsal has not hardened these men against the music, rather it has served to cultivate an easy grace and confidence supremely evident in their performance.

Each note is a premonition of the note to come, the progressions seem inevitable until suddenly, jarringly, a sharp violin treads upon the expected.

After the intermission followed String Quartet No.6, an easier piece to listen to, though no less full of innuendo and subtlety than either of the preceding pieces. I have to laud the programs set-up. Not being classically trained as a musician or listener, I was relieved for the break, during which I was able to let the music I had just heard settle within me. I was able, over the ever-so-slightly-too-concentrated ice tea that is typical intermission fare, to close my eyes and let the notes sink and arranged themselves in my memory, gaining a greater appreciation for complexity and art of the composer, the technique of the players.

Quartet No.6 struck me as being more traditionally melodic, though no less mathematical, composition. It had a greater feel of being organic than the latter pieces, and I found myself repeating what I could of the melody as I left the Concert Hall, desperate not to lose the beauty of the music so very soon.

Amid great rounds of applause, the audience was quick to rise to their feet, in well-deserved appreciation of a wonderful performance. Students and faculty, members of the community and others have once again proved the capacity for a small college and town to be the elegant admirers and hosts of world-class talent. The Quartet returned to the stage four more times, the applause never fading. Bartók, it would seem, is very much alive.

'Ephemerid' finds new room to move

By Kate DeForest
Arts Editor

Improvising is one of the most difficult and courageous directions in which an artist can chose to guide their craft; it can also be one of the most rewarding. I, because of my tendency to write down and think ahead, plan and plan again, am often awed by those who are able to present themselves before an audience, bare and under the gaze of so many eyes, without knowing exactly what they will do until they have done it. The "not-knowing" Donald Barthelme speaks of concerning the writer is, in my opinion, applicable to any artist, there is a sense of improvisation in every art, of not having to exact knowledge of what is to come next. There is excitement in the "not-knowing," and a sense of urgency brought about by the need to know. The difference between the writer and the dancer, specifically any member of Dance Company of Middlebury, is that the writer has time to edit, to exact greater than his initial control, to modify the piece, tweak, and cut; the dancer has no such safeties, time cannot be made to take back a single choice.

The Company's winter tour opened this past Wednesday with the plaintive piercing cry of the baritone sax, effectively penetrating the fiber of the audience, piquing the senses for the performance to come. Called forth by the sonorous tone, the dancers began to populate the stage, the music becoming appropriately complex as the dance space filled.

That the company rehearses extensively is apparent through their ability to create spontaneously a set of improvisation (30 to 45 minutes long) that has a sense of congruency while maintaining the interest of the audience. Following in the style of improvisation originated by Judith Dunn (1933-1983) and Bill Dixon, veteran artistic director Penny Campbell has led rehearsals for senior dancers Caroline Bodkin, Sarah Garcia, Annie Kloppenberg, Bill Manka, Katrina O'Brien, Alison Robinson and Olivia Whitman throughout the fall and winter semesters. Also present at rehearsal and performances are Jared Baird '00 (percussion), Darren Case '01 (saxophone) and viperHouse members Michael Chorney (saxophone) and Robinson Morse (bass and trombone).

The dancing itself was marked by moments of clarity and beauty when it was clear that conscious decisions were being made.

The dancing itself was marked by moments of clarity and beauty when it was clear that conscious decisions were being made; when the execution of such decisions was crisp, jarring or fluid as the moment demanded. One segment particularly marked with such lucidity was initialized by Manka, followed by O'Brien, in which the pair of dancers came to a literal stand-off with the musicians, defining the physical division between each group's work space.

However, to say the dancing was flawless would be misleading at the very least, dishonest at worst. I am of the opinion that Campbell's emphasis on the artist's creative process sometimes neglects to consider the audience as much as it perhaps should.

The dancers' choices at times lacked the confidence needed to finish some of their motions. I have come to expect a certain level (the slighter the better) of awkwardness stemming from the experimental nature of improvisation but no less than twice throughout the performance an errant hand or foot made contact with an unsuspecting dancer's face.

The lighting, as dynamic as the dancing itself, was skillfully handled by Jennifer Ponder, the dance department's lighting design and technical director. Following the cues of both dancers and musicians alike, Ponder created an atmosphere that enhanced the movement on stage, alternating between horizontally mounted spotlights and ceiling mounted blue-hued bulbs among others.

Only once did I have a negative reaction to this aspect of the performance, at the very beginning of the second set when the lightning resembled that one might find in a bus station bathroom. It did little to showcase the dancers but did much to expose every dust mote and scuff mark marring the studio's black wooden floor. On the whole, however, the lighting was imaginative and evolved with the sets, sometimes pushing the dancers forward, sometimes following their lead.

The Company's rapport with the musicians is one of the more amazing relationships that has been brought about by the process of improvisation. During the moments when musician to band to dancer to company are moving along the same vibration have the same sense of lyricism as a finely wrought poem (in free verse, of course; the confines of a sonnet or ballad would be an unfit comparison). The instrumental component of the performance kept my interest, more than as a backdrop against which the dancers could display themselves.

The inaugural performance of this year's Company was a success in many ways; creatively the dancers seemed to visibly gain in confidence as the performance went on, part of what I can only imagine to be a continual process. As they continue to perform, I'm sure the Company will continue to grow, each unique performance building upon the last.

The Company, who will perform at locations across New England during February break, will also, at some locations, provide master classes and lectures to compliment the showings.

Courtesy Photo

The Dance Company of Middlebury performed "Ephemerid" Jan. 24 and 25.

Disease ridden story, flawless production

(continued from page 18)

not only played with the manipulative control Kabe holds over the four, but also with his trapped helplessness. Unable to leave the city, he watches the plague creep closer, fighting his fear through a forced bravado and through comically pathetic sexual encounters with Morse.

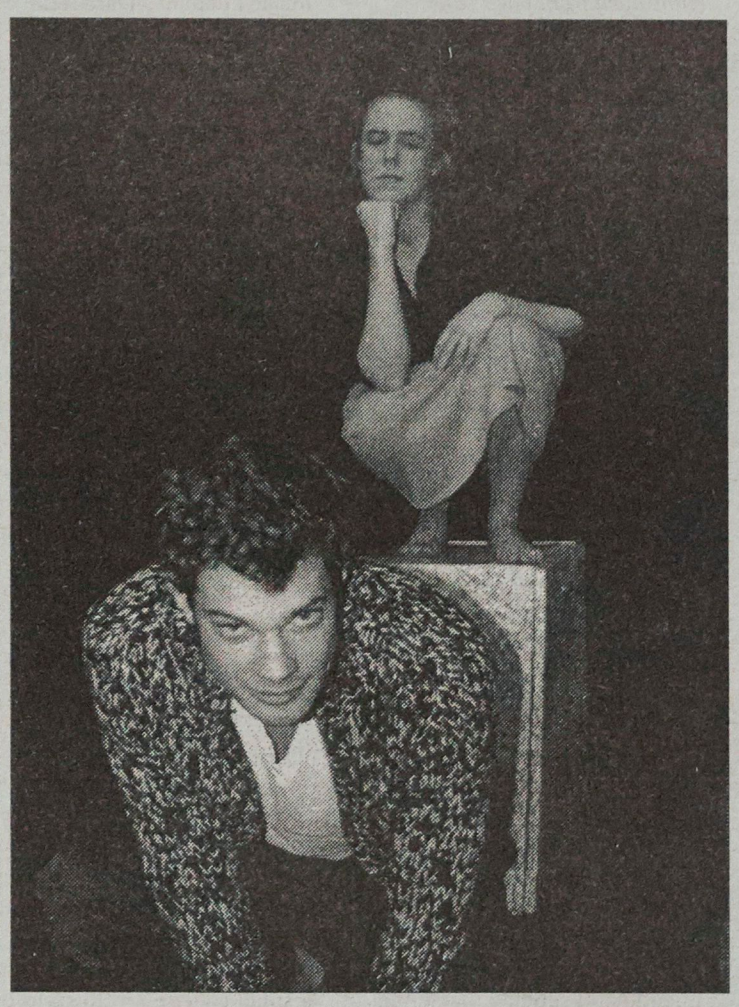
The only relationship that did not feel fully developed in the play was that between Morse and Darcy. An obviously complex relationship hinged on issues of trust, love, sexuality and beauty, it felt that the surface had barely been skimmed in the discovery of the ties between the two women. As one of the major themes of the play seemed to be the de-sexualization of women who are no longer "beautiful" it was sad to see the only relationship that would deal with this fully overlooked.

The design played a crucial role the production, with Jeff Daigle's '01 set and lights providing a claustrophobic feel to the interior of the house, and a more exposed, almost vulnerable feel to the street scenes. The costumes, by Frank Labovitz '01, helped delineate the class lines even more, and at times, such as the exchange of clothing between Bunce and Snelgrave and a game of dressing up by Morse, to show how such class lines were no more natural than the clothes we wear.

This is perhaps the most important thing to take away from the production: Wallace's afterword (which was on display in the lobby after the performance) explains how the impetus for the play stemmed from her experience of watching the interaction between rioters of the L.A. riots and the residents of the gated communities of Beverly Hills. In a world where the class lines are drawn in our city in block by block, how can we possibly pretend these distinctions are not dangerous? What happens if we take away the boundaries and privileges of class, and are left to confront each other as people?

Richardson's production made no clear statement on this front, and perhaps rightly so. The role of the play is not to present the answers, but to raise the questions, to ask the audience to think. And those leaving the Studio Theater were definitely thinking.

On the Prowl



Alex Westra

Creeping towards the camera, *Nick Vale '02seduces the audience during performance while Erin Kunkel '03 watches on.*

Out with the new, in with the newer; Feld premieres

(continued from page 19)

uniform and obviously rehearsed theme.

The conclusion of "Organon" was perhaps most moving, with Woetzel reappearing from offstage after being resurrected. Sashaying around the other dancers, seemingly oblivious to their presence, Woetzel is almost as naked as a child emerging from the womb, and is quickly enveloped by a white cloth. He moves under the cloth before it finally wraps him much like a mummy while the brilliant organ music, approaching perfection, only adds to the eerie feel of the expressionless dancers.

The evening, which evoked numerous thought-provoking questions and conversations amongst the audience, ended too quickly. "Organon" contains countless unexplored nuances, so many variations, so many details which I missed. Feld easily has melded three miniature ballets into one, which enforces his choreographic brilliance, but also leaves one asking if it was his intention to allow the viewers to not rest their eyes on just one part, or did Feld attempt to unify too many ideas and too many dancers into just one program. That question, I'm afraid, can be answered only by Feld, and I would venture a guess that he could not articulate the pivotal moment he translated his ideas into a ballet, a ballet so rich in detail that one could see it over and over again, and still miss the subtleties of it. It is those ballets that are so entrancing that you do not even know where to look, and you feel if you devote your attention to one particular detail for too long that you have missed a most important part of something else; it is those ballets that make dance worth watching once and then countless times after that first exposure. I do believe Feld has done it, and done it well.

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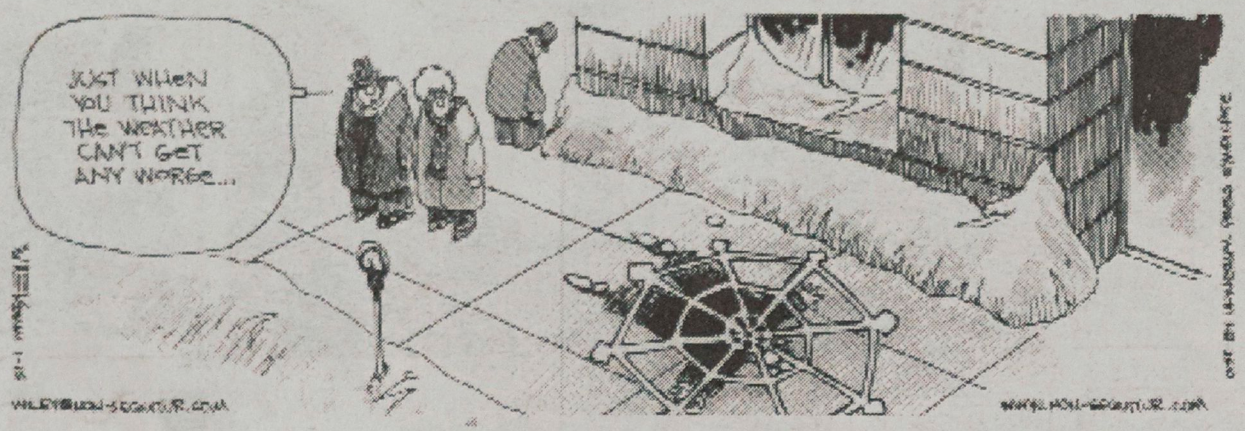
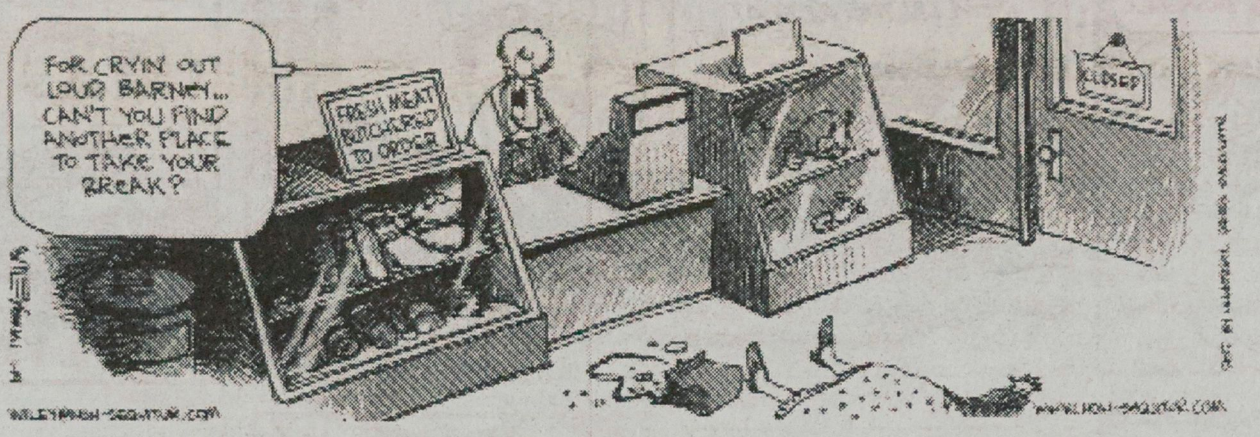
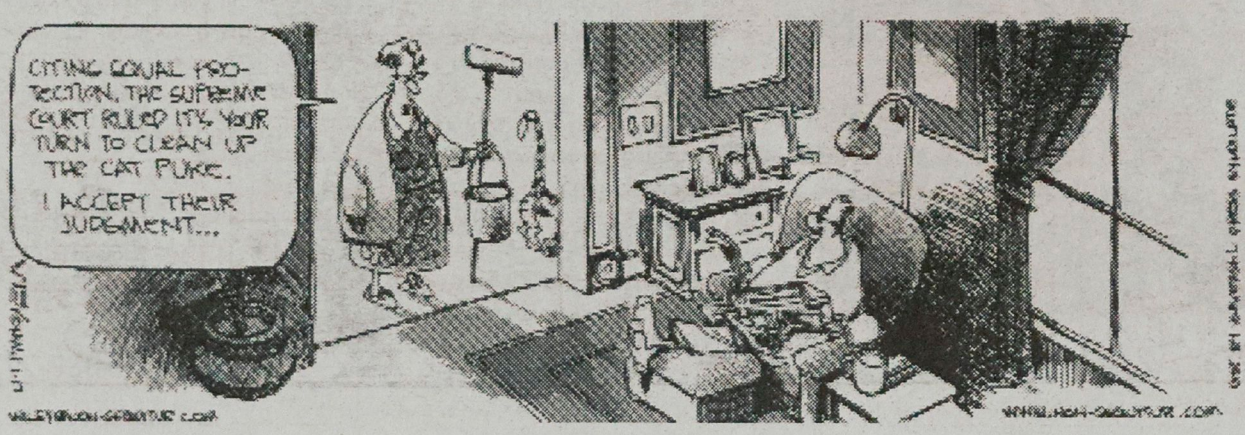
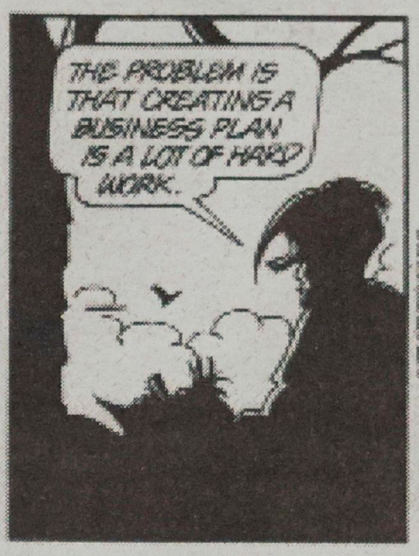


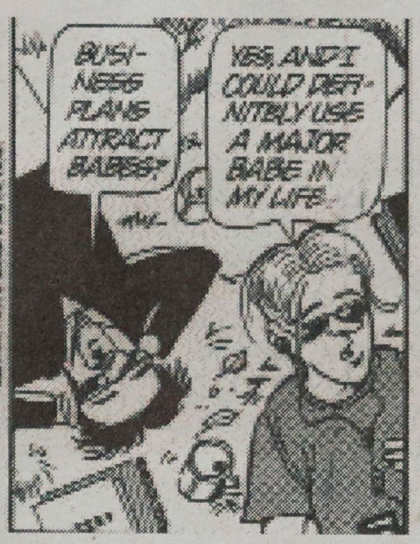


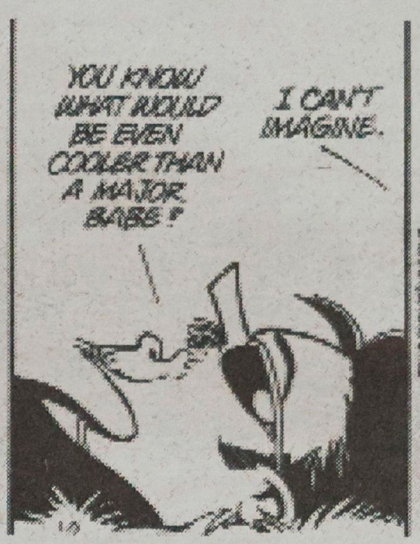


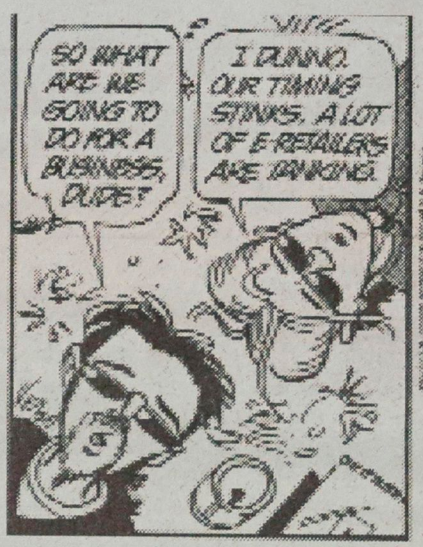
Doonesbury

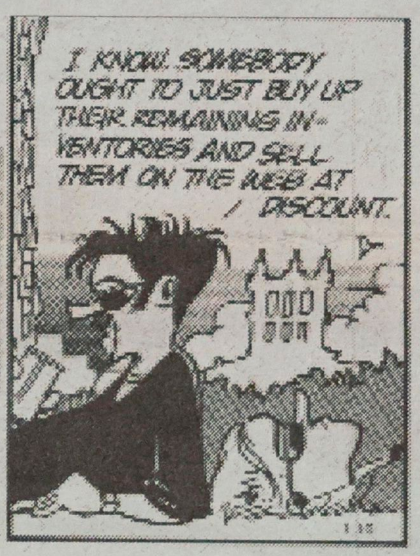
BY G.B. TRUDEAU

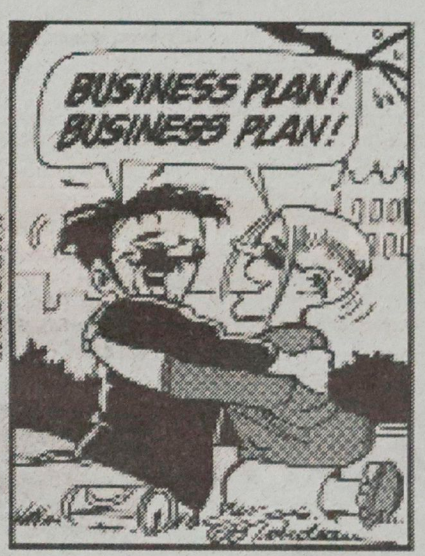


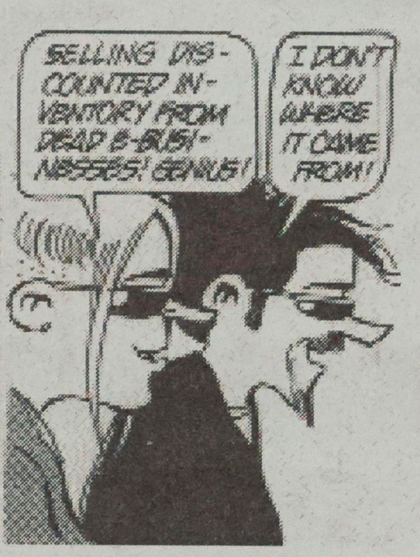


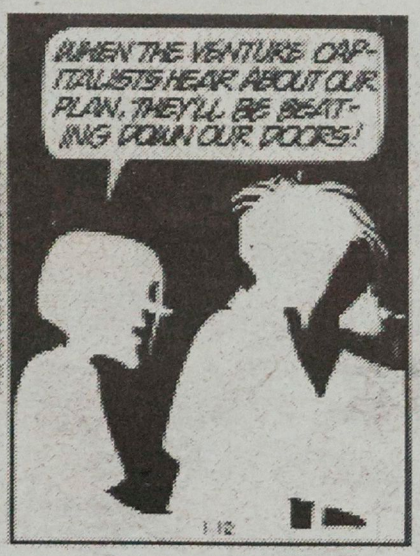


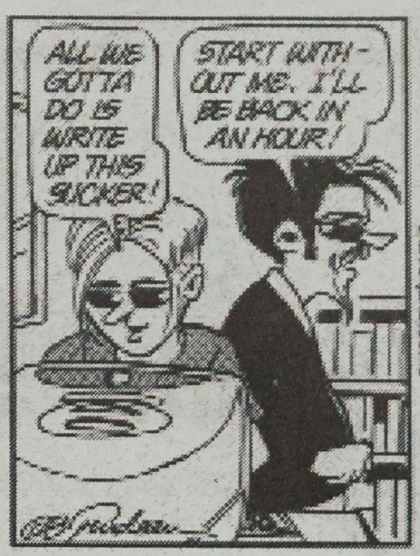












NESCAC maintains integrity in sports through scholar athletes

(continued from page 28)

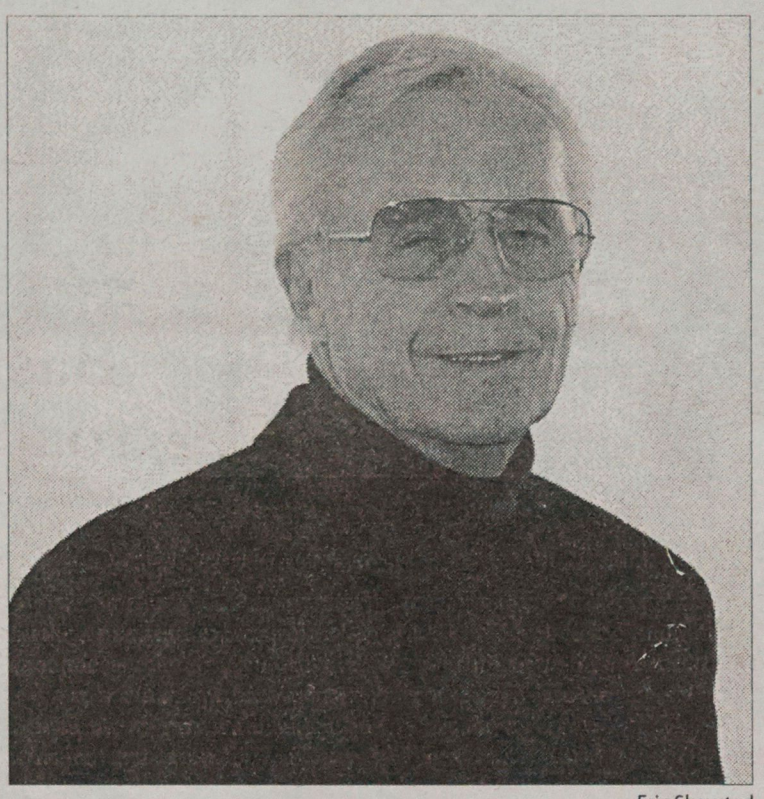
In one passage, they stated, "The recruitment of athletes has become much more aggressive, professional and intense. This is true at all levels of competition, including Division III, and in all sports, including the lower-visibility ones such as tennis and swimming. Coaches have come to play a much more important role in the admissions process than they used to play, and there are fewer and fewer 'walk-on' athletes." This has not always been true for NESCAC schools, but it has become increasingly so in recent years. Amherst College now designates 75 out of the 450 places in each year's freshman class for recruited athletes. Middlebury itself does not set aside any specific number of places for athletes, although the admissions office readily does admit that athletes are given special consideration.

The New York Times article and the recent Shulman-Bowen data have already had an impact on the Middlebury community. The book itself has been given to many deans and directors within the school. According to Director of Athletics Russ Reilly, "I think that there will be a lot of serious discussion within the NESCAC and Middlebury about some of the questions raised by *The New York Times* article and this book, 'The Game of Life.' It will cause us to re-examine and hopefully reaffirm all those things that we are doing right. And perhaps also make us find some things that we need to do better. It will cause us to look more closely at how we are operating."

The three NESCAC schools that were included in the study were Hamilton, Wesleyan and Williams. So while the data collected does not reflect Middlebury's own data, it is most likely a good reflection of it.

Among the relevant data, Shulman and Bowen found that, in 1989, there was 135-point gap in SAT scores between students at large and the lower-scoring, high-profile (meaning sports like football and hockey) male athletes. They also found that in 1999, an athlete stood a 48 percent greater chance for admission into a non-scholarship school. This statistic was 18 percentage points higher than in 1989, when athletes stood a 30 percent greater possibility for entrance.

All these numbers point towards a developing trend that schools such as Middlebury are increasingly interested in recruiting athletes at the price of academics. Yet, it is not clear if Middlebury sacrifices academic standards by a large margin. While athletes do need to deal with time constraints more than other students, each one of the more than 20 recruited athletes questioned for this article said that they found the work at Middlebury to be manageable.



Eric Skovsted

Dee Rowe '52, who has been teaching a class on issues in sport this January, believes strongly in the role of athletics at liberal arts colleges.

According to Scott Goldman '01, captain of the men's ice hockey team, "The athletes here are dedicated to their teams and their teachers. It's a tough balance. But college is a learning experience. You've got to be able to find that balance between sports and academics."

Goldman also dismisses the notion that recruitment becomes increasingly important as a team has success, as has the men's ice hockey team with five national championships in six years. "Once a school starts doing well, hockey players start looking here. It's not hard to find athletes who want to come to Middlebury." Goldman went on to state, "Each person offers something unique to Middlebury, whether it is sports, leadership or community service. The admissions office is looking for well-rounded students."

By working each year to create the strongest, well-rounded student body possible, the Middlebury admissions office finds it is necessary to lower their academic standards in some cases, but they work hard to maintain the academic standards as much as possible. That is the truth of the matter.

There is another issue at hand here, however. Many people lament over the condition of sports at the Division I level, where athletes play for the possibility of lucrative contracts within months of graduation. The purity of the sports themselves has been lost to many. Yet, where does the NESCAC stand in the sports world today? Is it still a beacon of hope?

According to Reilly, one of the main things that makes an institution like Middlebury special is the type of athlete it draws. "I believe students who elect to go to a school like Middlebury and plan to play athletics do so for the love of the game. They are not in it for any altruistic benefits. They are playing the games for the love of the games."

Reilly likens the playing field to an extension of the classroom. "I think that the role of athletics is simply an extension of the overall academic vision of any liberal arts institution. I like to call the lessons you learn in sport 'life lessons.' You learn to manage your time, to be a part of a small community, to accept consequences for your actions and to learn to win and lose with grace and dignity."

But how does a school like Middlebury maintain its emphasis on the morals involved in sport while participating in a highly competitive league with an increasing emphasis on postseason play? The answer is through the coaching staff, whose job it is to instill athletes with the idea that they are at this school as students first, athletes second.

Reilly, however, believes that postseason play can be taken too seriously. "Personally, I think that as a society, we place too much emphasis on the postseason. I think it's nice to challenge yourself against the best, but I think that the most important part of the season is the regular season and regional play."

Recently, the presidents of the NESCAC schools voted to limit the number of NESCAC teams in NCAA tournaments to one. After this spring, at-large bids will no longer be given to Middlebury or any other NESCAC school. This, Reilly feels, is a mistake. " The reason I think that's a shame is that there will be instances where the number-one team in the NESCAC will be upset and therefore unable to go to the NCAA tournament."

Interestingly the rule change looks to affect more women's teams than it does men's. Over the past few years, Middlebury has received at-large bids in mostly women's sports, a testament to how strong the NESCAC league is in women's athletics.

There is perhaps no one who believes more strongly in the importance of athletics in a liberal arts college setting than former University of Connecticut Head Basketball Coach Dee Rowe '52. Rowe has been teaching a Winter Term class this month on issues in sport, including the subject of the role of athletics in a small liberal arts college.

While Rowe has been involved in athletics his entire life, he is concerned by the state of intercollegiate athletics at the top levels. "Sadly, sports is a mirror of society, and we often see things we would rather not," he said. "Sports has become a billion dollar industry, and it seems as though it serves as something like a religion or cult to many. Too much of the time it is only about business and entertainment."

However, he feels very strongly about the role athletics should play in a college like Middlebury. "Athletics should be an integral part of the true value of a liberal arts education. This type of education is about building lives. Athletics at this level is all about serious students who are also serious about athletics."

In a few words, Rowe had summed up the mission of athletics at Middlebury. From the moment they arrive at Middlebury College, athletes here are taught about the importance of teamwork, strength of character and commitment. They are not the gold diggers one might find in every Division I program in the United States. They play for a variety of reasons, but none of them are overly selfish. As Rowe refers to it, what Middlebury offers is the "last bastion of amateurism."

When asked about his impressions of Middlebury and its athletic program, Rowe is filled with pride. "The pursuit of excellence should be key in all aspects of education, including athletics. I would love to see people embrace what they have here, nurture it and protect it. The spirit of the entire student body is excellent. The people I have met here are so outstanding. It is clear they are doing things the right way. They accept people who are qualified students, but who excel in other ways as well. I could not be any more proud to be an alumnus of this school."

So, as the debate over academics versus athletics in the admissions process continues as it has for a long time, one truth remains. Middlebury, as well as other schools in the NESCAC, represents a lot that is good about sports today. People come here to play in the spirit the sports were intended to foster. Amidst some of the most state-of-the-art facilities available, one will find on any given day many of the purest athletes in the nation.

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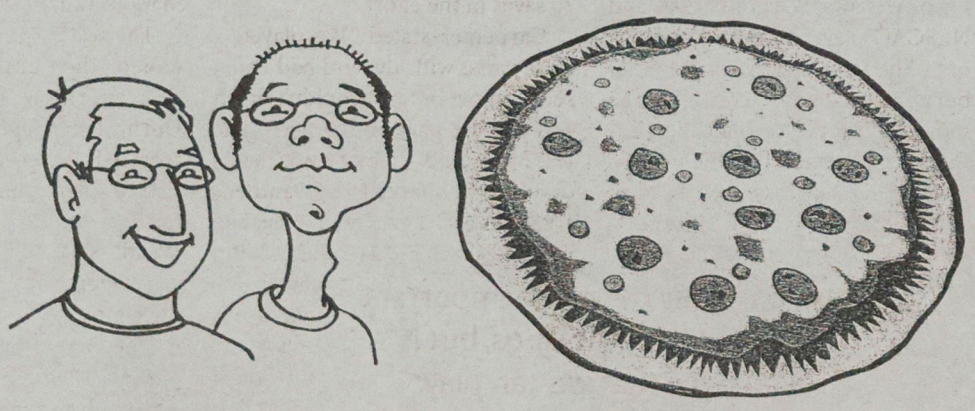

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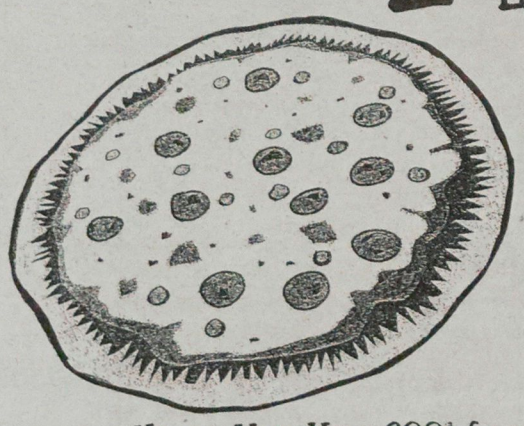

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Men's hockey confidently enters February battle with Williams

Andrew Corrigan

Kevin Cooper skates with the puck and anticipates a forward pass during Middlebury's 3-2 overtime win versus Salem State on Friday night.

(continued from page 27)

As has become routine with Middlebury, total dominance of a game is almost compromised by an inability to capitalize on opportunities and score goals. Salem St. was obviously inferior to Middlebury is most aspects, as the 38-13 shot margin, in favor of the Panthers, indicates.

However, the Vikings were able to tie the game at two through regulation, and came just 1:18 from earning a tie. Had the game ended in a tie, it would have been a true injustice to the Panthers, given Middlebury's dominance. However, as the Wentworth game showed us, controlling a game does not ensure victory.

Middlebury struck first on freshman Kevin Cooper's power play score at 3:53 of the first. After a Salem St. equalizer, junior Ryan Constantine netted his third goal of the season halfway through the second. Salem St. earned the only score of the final period of regulation when Mark Farioli found the net.

Penalties marred the overtime session, starting with a questionable call against Middlebury. The officials compensated with a make-up penalty against the Vikings, and on the ensuing power play, Goldman ended the game with a goal off a rebound.

Southern Maine was unable to maintain the same excitement and drama of the Salem St. game, and the Panthers pummeled the Huskies in a 6-0 win. As an interesting side note, Southern Maine's coach, Jeff Beaney, is the brother of our own Bill Beaney, an aspect that unfortunately did not raise the competition level of the game. After a scoreless first, two freshmen erupted for four goals in a four minute stretch.

Cooper initiated the scoring at 14:20 of the second, and also earned the second goal of the game.

Adam Foote continued the freshman dominance with two goals of his own, and the outcome no longer was in doubt. Milan Sloboda and Goldman tallied in the third with insurance goals, and Marc Scheuer recorded the shutout.

The next two weeks present the Panthers with perhaps the most challenging portion of their season, but unfortunately few students will be here to support the team. Next weekend they trek to Maine for a weekend series against Colby and Bowdoin, two upper- echelon league opponents. On the following Tuesday Amherst, a team that the Panthers barely beat earlier this season, comes to Middlebury.

Two weekends from now, when some students will be returning to campus, the hated Williams Ephs come to the Kenyon arena. It is unfortunate that this game occurs during break, given the rivalry between the schools.

If last year's game to determine the NESCAC crown was any indication, this year's contest should prove to be just as competetive a contest.

Hoops left to regroup after devastating losses

(continued from page 27)

three-pointers in six attempts and a 5-5 mark at the free throw line. Eleven points from Keith Watts '01 and 10 from Andrew Shogan '01 complemented his effort.

In the Amherst game on the road, Middlebury faced the fourth highest scorer in the NESCAC in Steve Zieja '03, who entered the game with an average of 18.6 notches per game. Zieja lived up to his billing in the contest by scoring 29, but it was not enough to overcome the Panther's scorching 13-20 from beyond the arc.

Shogan dropped all six of his attempts from outside while Cormier went 3-5. Shogan finished with 23; Cormier with 28 and Eric Bundonis put in 11.

Chris McLaughlin '01 led all Panther rebounders with 10. In all Middlebury outrebounded the Lord Jeffs 32-29.

Middlebury's 102 points was the second highest total allowed by the Amherst Jeffs all year; they allowed 118 to Clark University in November for their only other loss of the season.

Middlebury played their stereotypical game here: made over 60 percent of its three-pointers, gave out 18 assists and got 37 attempts from the line. Said first-year Nate Anderson of the win, "It was our best game of the year. We played great together against a tough team, and we pulled away at the half."

Tuesday's game against Colby-Sawyer was postponed due to the inclement weather that plagued Middlebury. The team will travel to face NESCAC foes Connecticut College on Friday and Wesleyan on Saturday.

Basketball faces uphill road to NCAA tourney

(continued from page 28)

and 14 rebounds, including nine offensive boards. Hanley had an off night, shooting 2-10 from the floor, but was backed up by solid performances from Riann Sciak '01, Megan McCosker '01 and Hyatt. The game held special meaning to the team because of last year's encounters between the two teams.

During the regular season the Panthers got blown out by 25 at Trinity. Then, in the ECAC championship the Panthers were up by 15 at halftime only to get outscored by 25 in the second half and lose the game 71-61.

The next afternoon the Panthers hosted a top-ranked Amherst squad and led 28-25 at the half. The game stayed close going into the final moments when McCosker stepped to the free throw line down one point with one second left. She missed the first but came through on the second to send the game into overtime. In the extra period the Panthers never got going and the Lord Jeffs pulled away with a six point victory.

The Panthers now look to an easier portion of the NESCAC schedule and face must needed wins to get them a birth in the NCAA tournament. Last night's game at Colby-Sawyer was cancelled because of weather, so the teams next challenges will come this weekend against Connecticut College and Wesleyan.

Both teams come into Pepin Gymnasium sporting 5-10 records and they have one NESCAC win between them. "Hopefully we can use those games to get our confidence level back up," Lowell said. The Conn. College game will be Friday at 7:00 p.m., while the Wesleyan game will be held at 3:00 p.m. the next day.

Women maintain top national ranking despite tie

(continued from page 28)

maining goal was notched by Anna Hastings '02 (assists to Abigail Lamb '04 and Nico Kieves '02). Megan Hutchinson '02 made 11 saves for the Panthers 4th shutout of the season. According to Labbe, "We pretty much dominated most of the game, their goalie played great and stopped us on some nice chances, which helped keep the score low. Our team came out ready to play and we came away with a well earned win."

In their 3rd game in as many days, the Panthers met up Sunday with Gustavus Adolphus College for an interregional match-up. The 2nd ranked Gusties came prepared to take Middlebury's number one ranking away, but were shut down by a tight Panther defense.

The Panther women never really allowed Gustavus to mount any real offense and outshot their opponent 25-15. Said Carpenter "After two full days on the road in Maine we had to reach down and find energy to play Sunday night because not only was the game important for national rankings, but it proved to us that we can play tough, strong hockey for three nights in a row. It was a real test for our team to be able to accomplish what we did." Labbe opened the scoring 10:28 into the first with yet another power play goal (assist to Reid). In recognition of her seven point weekend (4 goals, 3 assists), in which she broke the 200 career points mark, Labbe was awarded both ECAC and NESCAC player of the week honors. She is now third on Middlebury's all time point scoring list. 13 minutes into the second, the Panthers struck again, this time with a goal by E. Neil (assist to Labbe). Laurie Richmond '02 (assists to E. Neil and Labbe) and Nina Kieves (assists to Elkins and Butler) added third period tallies to bring the score to 4-0.

Not only was the game important for the national rankings, but it proved to us that we can play tough, strong hockey for three night in a row

—Captain Sarah Carpenter '01

However, the Panther's hopes of a shutout were taken away when the Gusties finally managed to get the puck past netminder Hutchinson, leaving the final score at 4-1. Hutchinson's play in the game was impressive as she stopped 14 shots in the contest.

In earlier action, the Panthers faced off against Division I Boston College and conference opponents RIT and Hamilton. The January 16th game at BC was close, with Middlebury's Audrey Pellerin '03 (assist to Reid) opening the scoring. BC soon countered with a goal and the game remained tied until 19:15 in the 3rd when BC put the game winner past Hutchinson, who made 20 saves in the effort.

Carpenter stated "We played a close game with BC and had equal shots on net but just couldn't finish and put the puck in the net." The R.I.T. game, a 3-1 victory, was memorable as it marked the Panther's 100th ECAC Division III League win and coach Bill Mandigo's 200th career win. He is only the 4th coach in women's college hockey to achieve this and the first in Division III to do so.

The scoring opened 12:50 into the first with a goal from E. Neil (assists to Butler and Richmond). Late in the second, E. Neil put in the game winner- a 5 on 3 power play goal assisted by Elkins. In the middle of the third, Elkins added her own goal, assisted by Kapus. The lone R.I.T. goal came late in the third on a power play. In net, Madouras made eight saves.

The following day, Middlebury took on the Hamilton Continentals and came away with a 7-1 victory. During the first period, Middlebury scored three times, with E. Neil (assists to Elkins and Heather Wende '04), and Labbe (assists to Carpenter and A. Neil) all lighting the lamp.

The second period saw a power play goal from Richmond who was assisted by Labbe and Elkins. The Panthers scoring continued into the third as another three goals were tallied. Two from Kapus, the first assisted by Labbe and Richmond, the second by Labbe, with Labbe notching the third (assisted by A. Neil). Goaltender Hutchinson saw only 5 shots in the Middlebury dominated contest.

The Panthers return to action this weekend with home games against Holy Cross (7pm Friday) and 4th ranked Williams (4pm Sat).

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First-year swimmers lead women's team to unlikely win

By Shannon Egan and Adam Nadeau
Staff Writers

Despite the fatigue that comes from a busy week of dual swim meets, the Middlebury women's swimming and diving team proved, once again, to be strong. They competed on Wednesday against Dartmouth College, and again on Saturday in a tri-meet vs. Williams and Springfield Colleges. Their record for the week ended up at 2-1, leaving them with an overall record of 7-2 for the season thus far.

The women's win over Dartmouth was amazing,. The team has never beaten the swimmers from the Division I Dartmouth squad. Middlebury was led by its first-year superstars, as well as its strong relay teams. The meet was exciting from the beginning as the 400-yard medley relay team of Lizzie Dewitt '04, Megan Olson '01, Mandy Smeal '02 and Martha Goebel '04 took first place.

Kellianne Egan '04 started the team off strong in the individual events with a win in the 1000-yard freestyle. Fellow first-year Sarah Groff followed that up with outstanding wins in all three of her events: the 200-yard freestyle, 200-yard butterfly and 500-yard freestyle. Lizzy Dewitt '04 took first in the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard backstroke.

On the diving board, another first-year, Courtney Campbell, took first place in the three-meter event, and fourth in the one-meter. Finally, the meet came to a perfect ending with the win by the 200-yard freestyle relay team of Goebel, Jaylene Orange '03, Jamie Davidson '02 and Lipsky, making the final score 137-106.

On Saturday, the team defeated Springfield (222-77), but fell just short of Williams (163-137). The loss to Williams, however, did not come without a strong effort by the Middlebury women. Several swimmers had one or more victories in the meet.

DeWitt took first place in both the 100-and 200-yard backstroke races, with NCAA "B" qualifying times in both events. Olson took the 100-and 200-yard breaststrokes in extremely close races with her Williams' competitor. Sarah Groff (04) took first in the 200-yard butterfly with a time of 2:10.84, breaking her own team record by 1.01 seconds. Alyson Lipsky (03) also made her NCAA "B" cut in the 50-yard freestyle, winning the event with a time of 24.68 seconds.

The meet ended with a strong performance by the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Groff, Lipsky, Goebel and Dewitt. They set the pool record by nearly two seconds with a time of 3:38.91.

The men's team, meanwhile, swam their two most talented opponents of the season in Dartmouth and Williams, losing to the Dartmouth Big Green 140-101 on a rare midweek meet and to Williams 175-110 on Saturday. Also at the Saturday tri-meet was Springfield College, whom the Panthers beat handily, 205-90.

In the Dartmouth meet, where a packed house braved the elements to cheer on the squad, the men's team had many great swims, staying close with Dartmouth throughout much of the meet. In the 1000 freestyle, Andrew Sterling '03 and Justin Graf '02 pulled away from the Dartmouth distance swimmer in the final 400 yards to claim first and second, respectively. John Robertson '01 and Scott Strickler '02 also swept the 200 backstroke, and Derek Chicarilli '02 took first on both diving boards. Middlebury also left Dartmouth with a bitter taste as the team of Strickler, Ricky Barfuss '03, and the first-year tandem of Donald Anselmi and Matty Clark took down the sprinters from Dartmouth to claim the glamorous 200 freestyle relay to conclude the contest.

Saturday also saw some great efforts from the team. Sterling lowered the six year old varsity mark in the 1000 free by two seconds, and his 9:57 is the among the fastest times posted this year in the event. Clark also shined, winning the 100 free in 49.39 seconds and clocking a season best 22.4 in the 50. Chicarilli again won both boards, defeating a talented field of divers from both Williams and Springfield rather handily. Another bright spot came when another pair of first-years, Johnny Blaze and Chubbs Whittington, swam seasonal bests in the 500 freestyle.

The final home meet of the year, and the last for the Middlebury seniors, is this Saturday at 1:00 pm, where the Panthers will face MIT, Norwich, and St. Michaels College.

Also of interest on Saturday is the return of junior phenom Grayson Stuntz, who has been absent from the team in an unsuccessful attempt to qualify for the PGA Tour.

Andrew Corrigan

Stephen Kinney '03 comes up for air while swimming the breast stroke at the Natatorium on Tuesday.

Young guns blaze trail for ski team

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

In just the second carnival of the budding winter season, the Panthers sped to a third place finish behind strong finishes from young, talented racers. After an unproductive first day at Sugarloaf USA in Maine, the team pulled together a fine effort on both sides in the slalom race. The men finished third and the women complemented with a fourth in the tight slalom format.

Coach Mark Smith said of the consistent slalom finish, "On paper we are better in giant slalom, but ironically enough we are skiing slalom better right now than GS. It bodes well for us since our GS racing should come around to balance our attack in the upcoming carnivals."

First-year Laura Scripture '04 proved her maturity in just her second race by capturing 24 points and finishing ninth overall in the slalom. Scripture attributed her admirable finish to good skiing and a crucial second run which was over five seconds faster than her first. "I was the 51st racer to leave the start in the first run and the 10th come the second run. The snow was much better and a lot less rutted the second go around." Scripture also stepped up with a ninth in the GS as well.

Andy Peters '03 was the wax on the men's skis come day two at Sugarloaf. The sophomore, who is getting his first chance to ski after an injury last year, headed the men's GS effort with an 18th and followed with a 15th in the slalom, a race he considers, "more natural for me." Peters was pleased to be helping the team while they search to find a midseason groove. "I was psyched to make a contribution to the team especially because I couldn't do anything last winter," said Peters.

> **It is exciting and I am happy they [young team members] stepped up for us. They did a great job and are starting to get the feel for racing at this level**
>
> **— Mark Smith, alpine ski coach**

Coach Smith lauded his two young standouts for their mature racing early in the season. "It is really exciting and I am happy they stepped up for us. They did a great job and are starting to get the feel for racing at this level." His tone was generally optimistic and Smith thinks that any early season jitters or slow start will be erased by his teams hard work and budding talent.

Eric Rygg '03, who coach Smith earmarked as a good talent, showed his potential by placing 10th in the slalom at the Colby carnival. Fred Coriell '02 was the veteran presence for the men, carving quick turns en route to a 14th in the slalom. Coriell was also 22nd in the GS, good enough for 13 team points.

Sophomore Meg Bonney had top 15 finishes in both race disciplines. The women were quite strong in the GS, taking third behind the two dominant teams of the year, Vermont and Dartmouth. It should be noted that Sarah Brophy '02 led the women's charge finishing a lucky seventh in the GS.

Next week the Alpine team resumes carnival racing after a one-week hiatus from competition. The UVM carnival will take place on the slopes of Mt. Mansfield in Stowe, Vt. The extra time has allowed the team to rest up, and key contributors like Chad McConathy '04 could be back for the race. Coach Smith said of his team going into the third carnival of the year, "We've trained hard during our week off and in general, are concentrated on the task at hand."

Women's squash poised for postseason play

By Andrew Zimmermann
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's squash team is plodding on a steady course to the Howe Cup National Championship of squash to be held at Yale in three weeks time. Over the weekend of Jan. 20, the women split two matches in Amherst at a three-team round robin tournament. They fell victim to a talented Amherst squad but were able to overcome a strong effort by St. Lawrence to earn the split bringing the Panther's record to 8-3 overall.

Women's Squash

Saturday, January 20th

Middlebury	0
Amherst	9

Saturday, January 20th

Middlebury	6
St. Lawrence	3

The Squash team has met a number of stern challenges along the way this season. Amherst was perhaps one of the most capable of Middlebury's opponents. The team from central Massachusetts won nine out of the nine games in winning the match. The score sheet was not indicative of the battle that was waged in the squash courts at Amherst however. Coach David Saward said of his team, "Amherst obviously proved themselves the better team but we gave them a good match and a 9-0 loss can be deceiving."

Lisa Pilkington '03 played well for Midd, as she has all year in her role as one of the team's top three players. The latter match on Saturday featured Middlebury and a formidable St. Lawrence University team. The top three women for St. Lawrence wreaked havoc and won all their respective games leaving the fate of the Panthers on its bottom six players. Lucky for Middlebury, those women came through in grand style winning the remainder of their games to give Midd a 6-3 match win.

Liz Funston '03 played very well on the weekend according to Coach Saward. The sophomore who had to play in the forth spot due to the absence of the Panther's number-three player, acquitted herself rather well in the unfamiliar role. Funston was 1-1 on the weekend, amassing a crucial win against St. Lawrence. First-year Britt Cosgrove's gutsy play helped the teams cause as Chrissy Fuld '03 and Jane Wilson '01 were among the contributors.

This week Middlebury will be home (Jan. 30). They will also travel to Mt. Holyoke over February break for important matches leading up to the Howe Cup. Saward is confident of his team's prospects against many of the Panther's upcoming opponents, yet sights Colby as a tough match.

"We would have liked to beat them earlier in the year but we'll get our chance again. They have great depth but then again so do we. It will be a big match and will probably determine where we are ranked in the National Championship," said Coach Saward.

Middlebury's goal is to reach the B flight of the Howe Cup. Right now the team is on the proverbial bubble, but with wins against Colby and its remaining teams the squad will have a favorable draw come the middle of February. For now the women are focused on the task of defending their home court and playing well at Mt. Holyoke.

Thrilling overtime victory caps successful week

By Alan Topalian
Staff Writer

Plattsburgh St. again emerged as a nemesis of the men's hockey team January 16, as the Cardinals garnered a 3-0 win, and again established themselves as one of the Panthers' chief rivals. However, Middlebury responded the following weekend with a pair of wins over league opponents.

Men's Hockey

Saturday, January 27th

Southern Maine	0
Middlebury	6

Friday, January 26th (OT)

Salem State	2
Middlebury	3

The weekend series was unusual, as the team traveled to Hamilton on Friday, but played at home on Saturday night, a departure from the standard two-game homestand or weekend road trip. The team had no problem coping with this irregularity, although its first 40 minutes of play against Hamilton were not especially sharp.

In a high scoring game, Middlebury was forced to play come-from-behind hockey, as they spotted the Colonials a 5-4 lead through two periods. Hamilton played strong early on, and capitalized first, when they netted a power play score just three minutes into the game.

The Panthers claimed their first lead of the game when first-years Kevin Cooper and John Dawson scored just 1:47 apart in the first. After nine scoreless minutes,

Hamilton tied the game late in the opening period, only to see Middlebury's Grayson Fertig '02 once again push the Panthers in front just 14 seconds later. Neither team's defense played strong in the first period, and the shot total at the end of the opening period stood at 18-15, with Hamilton holding the advantage.

The defenses settled down in the second period, but Middlebury's uninspired play continued, and Hamilton managed to end the second in a 4-4 tie with Middlebury. A mid-game goalie switch by Middlebury after the fourth Continental score helped to calm the team defensively, and Middlebury outscored Hamilton 4-1 after the netminder change, thanks to four third-period goals.

Friday's matchup brought Salem State to Kenyon Arena, and the fifth ranked Vikings engaged Middlebury in its most thrilling home game of this season.

The following night the team played before its home crowd against Skidmore, a totally overmatched opponent. Skidmore managed to keep Middlebury from scoring throughout the first period, but in the second, Middlebury struck four times within a 9:03 span, and effectively seized control of the game. Skidmore mustered a measly 13 shots during the game, while Middlebury peppered Throroughbred goalie Jon Olson with 42 attempts. Skidmore earned its only score of the game early in the third period, but two more Middlebury insurance goals guaranteed the easy victory.

Another Tuesday road trip sent the Panthers to Northfield to face fierce intrastate rival Norwich, the defending NCAA champions. Last year's memorable game in Middlebury extended into overtime and ended with Norwich pulling out a close win. This year the Panthers triumphed in the Cadets' home rink by a 6-3 margin.

The Panthers' victory was enabled by the 5-0 goal scoring run engineered by the Panthers through the first two periods. In the third period, the Middlebury defense lapsed slightly in allowing three Norwich goals in just 2:19, but an empty netter by Scott Goldman '01 ended Norwich's hopes.

During the most recent weekend, the Panthers faced off against two league opponents, and, after defeating both those teams, they stood atop the NESCAC standings by just one point over Colby.

Friday's matchup brought Salem St. to Kenyon Arena, and the fifth-ranked Vikings engaged Middlebury in its most thrilling home game this season. Coming off a tie to an unheralded Fitchburg St. squad, Salem St. was hoping to legitimize its lofty rank against an established opponent such as the Panthers.

Although the final score of the game indicated a tough struggle, the number of tallies belied the actual competitiveness of the match.

(see Men's, page 25)

Nordic squad leads charge at Colby

By Justin Beckwith
Staff Writer

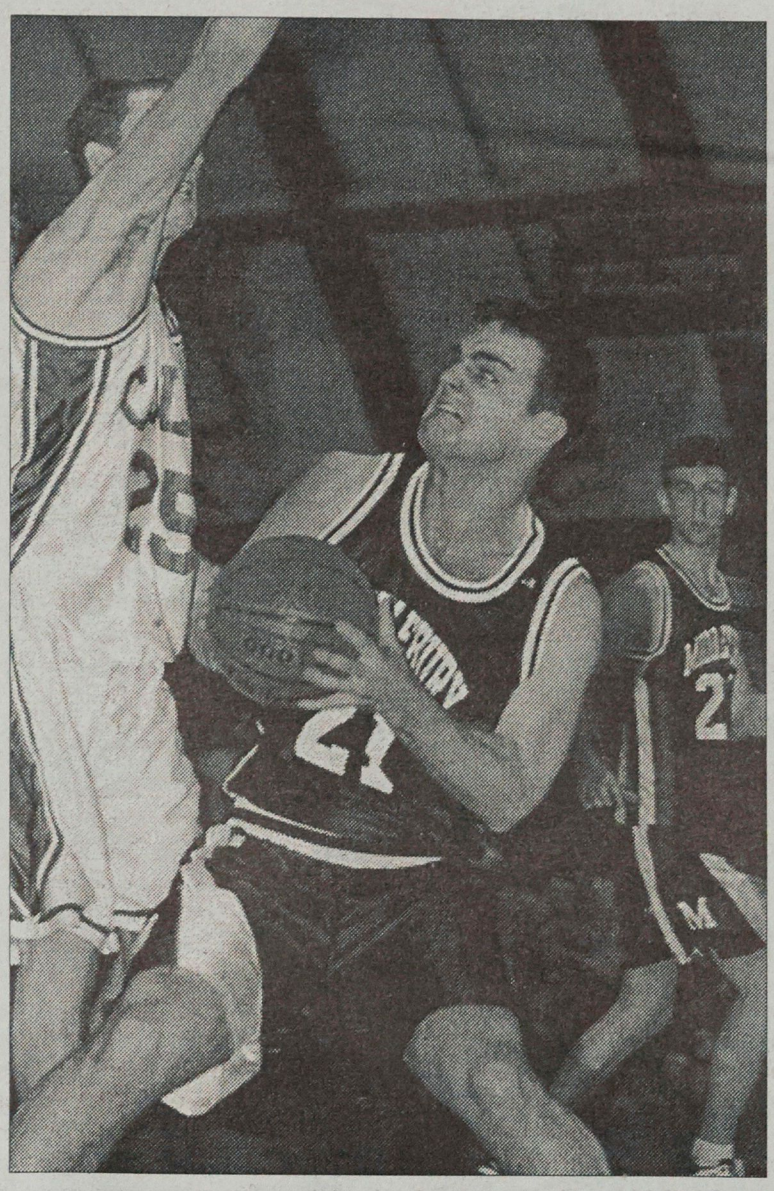
The Nordic Ski Team traveled to Sugarloaf, Maine, last weekend for the Colby Carnival. The weekend included individual distance freestyle races and mixed-sex team relays. Middlebury finished third, behind longtime rivals Dartmouth and the University of Vermont.

The first event of the weekend was the women's 15 kilometer race. Kate Newick '04 hung with the lead pack and finished fourth. Kate Whitcomb '04 won a sprint to the finish line to claim 10th. Megan Sands '02 continued to show her skating strength placing 13th. Heather Beal '02.5, Karen Erikson '04 and Berkley Leach '04 proved the depth of the women's team by placing 15th, 20th and 21st, respectively. The race was won by UVM's Ekaterina Ivanova.

The 20-kilometer skate race tested the mettle of the men's squad. Justin Beckwith '01 led the team with a fifth-place finish. Matt Whitcomb '01 was the second Middlebury finisher in 15th place. Tim Weston '03 struggled on his second lap finishing 20th. Competing in their first mass-start, 20-kilometer event, Marshall Greene '04, Kyle Dezotell '03 and Simon Isaacs '03.5 placed 30th, 32nd and 35th, respectively. The race was won by UVM's Audun Foss Knudsen.

Bright sunshine and cold temperatures made for fast tracks for the relay races. Middlebury's two scoring teams placed sixth and eighth. Leach, Dezotell and the Whitcomb combo (Matt/Kate) skied an inspired race to place sixth. Erikson, Greene, Weston and Newick comprised the eighth-place team. UVM won the race.

This is a rest weekend for the Panthers. The next weekend Middlebury travels to Stowe, Vt., to challenge the Vermont Catamounts on their home course.



Eric Skovsted

John Barrett '01 fights for an opening to shoot during an emotional and lopsided loss to second place Colby last Saturday in Pepin Gym.

Men's basketball suffers agonizing last-second loss

By Ben Dow
Staff Writer

While the butts of many a Middlebury student have annexed new couch territory this January term, Panther men's basketball has been working their butts off in the rigors of their NESCAC schedule. The team has compiled a record of 9-8,

Men's Basketball

Saturday, January 27th

Colby	90
Middlebury	69

Friday, January 26th

Bowdoin	75
Middlebury	74

and that's after two straight losses to Colby, 90-69, on Jan. 27, and Bowdoin, 75-74, on Jan. 26. Two energizing blowouts, one over hapless Brandeis, 107-74, on Jan. 23, and the other on the road against conference-leading Amherst, 102-87, on Jan. 20 preceded these two losses.

Colby, who occupies second in the NESCAC behind Amherst, handed the Panthers a 21-point loss at home by using a phenomenal first half of play to build an insurmountable lead.

Colby's Sam Clark, as predicted in this publication, ran roughshod over the defense, racking up 34 points, nine rebounds, five assists and a block. Teammate Damien Strahorn tallied 26 points.

The Panthers, playing without senior center Chad Malone, were severely overmatched on the boards, 45-25. Nate Anderson could only muster 5 boards to led the Panthers.

The story of this game is all in the first half, as Middlebury played the White Mules to a 46-46 tie in the second half. Middlebury only shot 6-28 from the field before the break, and this proved to be the difference in scoring as it allowed a 19-0 Colby run to start the game. The Panthers' oft-relied upon three-pointer was also a trouble spot, as the team only made 5-29 from downtown compared to Colby's 7-15.

Senior Jon Cormier led Middlebury with 16 points including three

(see Hoops, page 25)

Charles in Charge

By Charles Gillig
Assistant Sports Editor

Kerry Collins needs a drink. For that matter, so do all New York fans after watching the 34-7 drubbing handed to the Giants by the Baltimore Ravens.

The Giants needed a career game from Collins, and they got it. Collins turned in the worst performance of his career, completing 15 of 39 attempts for 112 yards and a Super Bowl record tying four interceptions. A clearly intimidated Collins was pressured into poor decisions all night. He threw two key interceptions which took the team out of the game.

The first of these came in the second quarter when the Giants had the ball at the Ravens 29-yard line trailing 10-0. Instead of throwing it away or looking short, Collins forced a pass into double coverage at the goaline. The interception took away any momentum the team could have had going into halftime and blew the team's best opportunity to score and get within a touchdown in the first half.

The second interception was flat-out wretched. With three picks already in the books, Collins stared down Ike Hilliard before throwing the ball and then served it up, right into the hands of Ravens cornerback Duane Starks for the easiest 49-yard touchdown he will ever have. At that point, the Ravens led 17-0.

Can you blame Giants Head Coach Jim Fassel for letting Collins throw so often? No. Fassel knew he couldn't run against the Ravens' staggering defensive line, so he had to put the ball and the game in Collins' hands. Collins just didn't produce when he needed to.

But what could Fassel really expect? After Collins' 381-yard, five-touchdown performance in the NFC championship, Giants fans thought it was the beginning of the long-awaited Kerry Collins era.

Unfortunately, people took for granted how horrible the Vikings defense was, especially their secondary. Two weeks ago the talented Giants receivers could easy beat the Viking coverage and Collins had plenty of time to find his man.

But last Sunday, Collins had to deal with the remarkable "R-Rated" Ravens defense that seemed to manhandle Collins with a mixture of a strong pass rush, solid secondary coverage and Superbowl MVP Ray Lewis' hands in his path on what seemed like every play.

Don't get me wrong, I think Collins deserves much credit for leading his team to the Super Bowl, something many other better quarterbacks have not be able to do (though Trent Dilfer deserves no accolades for what his team did). However I have no problems criticizing Collins for not coming through on the big stage because I'm a sports writer and that's what we do.

'The Game of Life' portrays an increasing focus on athletics

Part 2: In a world of professionalism, is Middlebury the 'last bastion of amateurism'?

By Bob Wainwright
Sports Editor

In today's sports world, winning is everything. Just remember Andres Escobar, a Columbian soccer player who was shot to death, 10 days after accidentally scoring a goal on his own team in the 1994 World Cup against the United States. As today's sports figures are constantly featured on television, they have become heroes to our children, who often admire their seven-figure salaries more than they do their athletic grace. While many of us try not to be too cynical, the absurdity of today's sports world is apparent in many respects to even the biggest of fans.

Nowhere is the win-at-all-cost mentality more apparent than in today's Division I universities, where many athletes see their role in college as no more than a stepping-stone to the professional level. Even the scholarship athletes who have little or no chance of making it at the professional level often prefer to see themselves in that way, rather than take their studies seriously. The fact is, today's top collegiate athletes often lose out on the benefits of obtaining free rides through college, because they put so little effort into their academic studies that they graduate with an eclectic group of classes that amount to very little in the outside world.

Luckily, however, there exists a fountain of youth, if you will, for sports. It is a collection of small liberal arts colleges in New England that participate in athletics for all the right reasons. At these schools, the "scholar athlete" is not a pipe dream; it is a reality. At least, we hope.

On Jan. 7, *The New York Times* published an article by Edward B. Fiske on how athletes win preference in the admissions process at schools such as Middlebury. The article was a source of controversy at Middlebury College immediately, as it became clear that the author of the article had misrepresented his intentions to the Middlebury hockey player, Matt Skoglund '01, whom he had interviewed.

However, the article also drew interest from Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld who said that the article sheds light on an important issue, "whether we are overemphasizing athletics at the expense of our academic mission."

In a new book titled "The Game of Life," authors James L. Shulman and William G. Bowen conduct a study of admissions and academic records of 90,000 students at 30 institutions, including 11 small liberal arts colleges, dating back to 1951. From their findings, they concluded that athletes who are recruited now enjoy a very substantial statistical advantage in the admissions process, even more so than that enjoyed by other targeted groups such as minorities.

(see NESCAC, page 24)

Andrew Corrigan

Hockey Coach Bill Beaney guides his team through every aspect of the game, promoting sportsmanship up and down the ice.

Road woes are 'Maine' issue for women's hoops

By Charles Gillig
Assistant Sports Editor

Three consecutive conference losses have the Panthers straying from the road to the NCAA tournament. Losses to Amherst, Bowdoin and Colby have dropped the team's conference record to 1-3

Women's Basketball

Saturday, January 27th

Middlebury	63
Colby	71

Friday, January 26th

Middlebury	57
Bowdoin	70

and placed them eighth in the NESCAC. Though the losses came against the three top teams in the conference, the team feels they are good enough to be right up there with the best teams in the conference. ""

Last weekend's trip to Maine started with a 70-57 loss against Bowdoin who is undefeated in NESCAC play. The game started out close with the Panthers trailing by only four at the half, but the Polar Bears pulled away in the second half aided by poor shooting from the Panthers. The teams' 34.4 field goal percentage including 1-11 from beyond the arc kept the team from staying in the game. Foultrouble for Riann Sciak and Kristin Hanley also hurt, though Hanley led the team with 17 points and 6 rebounds. "We played well early, but couldn't finish strong," Hanley said.

On Saturday the Panthers lost an afternoon game 71-63 to Colby who is also undefeated in the NESCAC. The Panthers held a 30-27 lead at the half, but once again saw their shooting touch disappear as they shot 35.7 percent from the field. Hanley stepped up with 31 points on 10-18 shooting from the field and four threes, but it was not enough as the other Panther starters shot a combined 9-32 from the field. "We're getting a lot of good looks, but the shots aren't falling right now," Amy Lowell '01 said. Middlebury teams commonly have trouble with the long trip to the Maine, which could have been a factor in these games, "The trip is very mentality straining, especially going to Colby after the losing the night before," Lowell said.

The weekend before the Panthers hosted Trinity and Amherst on back-to-back days. On Friday night, the team used a 13-0 run midway through the second half to propel them to a 56-42 victory. Lowell led the way with 15 points

(see Basketball, page 25)

Impressive streak ends at 102 wins

By Margaret Aycock
Staff Writer

The women's hockey team completed a tough three-game weekend with wins over Colby and the second-ranked team in the nation, Gustavus Adolphus (Minnesota), as well as a tie with sixth-ranked ranked Bowdoin.

The weekend started out with a trip to Maine to face off against

Women's Hockey

Sunday, January 28th

Gustavus Adolphus	1
Middlebury	4

Saturday, January 27th

Middlebury	2
Colby	0

NESCAC opponents Bowdoin and Colby. Friday night's contest against Bowdoin proved to be a test for the Panthers, as they had their consecutive ECAC win streak snapped at 102.

The final 3-3 mark was the result of an uphill battle. Down 2-0, they first got on the board 26 seconds into the second period with a power-play goal by co-captain Michelle Labbe '01 (assists to Kristen Reid '04 and Jean Butler '04). Down 3-1 entering the third the Panthers battled back to a tie with goals from Nina Kieves '02 (assists to Labbe and Catherine Elkins '02) and Labbe (assist to Erin Neil '03). Labbe stated, "We didn't come out as strong as we should have against Bowdoin and they took advantage of that. We completely changed our play around in the third period and we played great...we kept plugging away right up until the end and we ended up tying the game. We didn't win, but our team showed a lot of determination and we finished the game on a very high note."

The game was played in front of a listed crowd of 1,200, one of the largest crowds the team has played in front of. According to co-captain Sarah Carpenter '01 "This was an amazing game to play in the third period. We came together and played in front of a huge crowd. It was such a different feel to have people yelling and cheering so loudly that we had to scream to each other on the ice. Everyone on the team agrees that it was a great experience to play with so many people yelling in the stands."

Carpenter also noted that "The league definitely has improved since my freshmen year. The goalies especially have improved and make teams far more competitive and tougher to beat. It is great to see the league standings so close and the battle for first place as tight as it is. It is great for Division III and women's hockey as a whole." Rookie goaltender Kati Madouras '04 made 12 saves in the tied contest.

Saturday afternoon the Panthers traveled to Waterville, Maine for a game against the White Mules of Colby. In the low scoring contest, Middlebury scored 5:30 into the first on a powerplay goal from Labbe (assists to Amber Neil '03 and Angela Kapus '03). The re-

(see Women's, page 25)

Ring leaders

Andrew Corrigan

Balancing on the slippery ice of Kenyon Arena, *President McCardell and Russ Reilly distribute championship rings to the football team.*